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## THE GESAIL GYFARCH STONE.

ONE day last June, Mr. J. Lewis of Llwyn Onn, Portmadoc, dropped me a word to say that Captain Evan Griffiths of the Gesail Gyfarch had found there an old inscribed stone which he should be glad to have examined. The Gesail is a short distance from the village of Penmorfa, or about three miles from Tremadoc.

In the beginning of August 1881, I happened to be spending a few days with Mr. Silvan Evans in the Valley of the Dovey, and I prevailed on him to come with me to the Gesail to have a look at the Stone. We went, and after walking up from Portmadoc Station we found the Stone laid by a wall near the house. It had been the lintel of a *beudy*, or cowhouse, which was built in a very peculiar manner, and thought to be at least five hundred years old. It stood in a field called Cefn y Gelli. The Stone had got into the hands of the masons, who were going to build it into a new wall when Captain Griffiths came to know of it; and even then he does not seem to have come to the rescue quite soon enough, as the masons had already begun to trim it in the usual way, which practice has probably spoiled more inscribed monuments than all other destructive influences put together.

About the end of the month Mr. Lewis visited the Stone with Mr. Thomas Roberts, a civil engineer living

at Portmadoc, who has very kindly favoured me with the following description of it, accompanied with a sketch. Its length is 5 feet 4 inches; its thickness, 6 inches; and its breadth at three different points, 10 inches, 12, and 14. It is greenstone from the intrusive rock overlying the lingula flags of the district, and was got most likely from the rock in the immediate neighbourhood. The inscription has been cut on the face, which had originally rested on the lingula flags.

In the meantime the Rev. C. H. Drinkwater, Vicar of St. George's, Shrewsbury, also paid a visit to the Gesail with a friend, who likewise took the dimensions of the Stone, and being an artist, he made a sketch of it, which has been kindly placed at my disposal. These last dimensions differ slightly from those given by Mr. Roberts; the greatest length, according to Mr. Drinkwater's friend, being 66 inches, while the other lengths are 65 and 59; the greatest breadth,  $14\frac{3}{4}$  or 15 inches; and the greatest depth, 8. Mr. Drinkwater further noticed a strange enclosure to the south of the house of Gesail, and above it an evidently sepulchral arrangement which he thinks well worth examining. It stands to the south-west of the house of Gesail, on higher ground.

As to the readings, that of Mr. Drinkwater does not differ from that which Mr. Silvan Evans and I fixed on, and it was this:

FILI CVNALIPI  
CVNACI [IC] IACIT  
.....BECVRI

We found no indubitable trace of the letters IC or HIC; but there is room enough certainly left vacant for the former; and I think we noticed a part of the I, and a part of what may have been a C. I have very little doubt that they were both once there. It so happens that at this part of the Stone there is a sort of patch, as it were in relief on the face of it. The inscriber was, however, not deterred by this, for he began his IACIT on it, though there is now very little left of the first I,

and the A is partly gone. There were some letters before BECCVRI in the last line; but they are gone, excepting a trace of the tops of some of them, as the Stone is chipped in that part. I cannot even tell how many those letters may have been; but Mr. Drinkwater thinks they were at least four, possibly five.

As to the other characters, the FI consist of an F with a small I attached to its lower horizontal limb. The NA are conjoint in both lines. So far as the Stone is concerned, it is difficult to decide beyond doubt as to the last letter but one of the first line, whether it is P or R. There is there all that is necessary to make P; but there is more, namely, a nearly horizontal bar proceeding towards the right from the lower end of the perpendicular, just as though the oblique line of an R had fallen down. On the whole, however, I am strongly inclined to think that the letter is to be read P, and that the rest is the result of a chipping of the surface of the Stone.

But I have not yet done with the letters. The first letter of CVNACI has lost its lower part, as it stood on a part which has been broken off, possibly before the stone left its original position on a grave. The first vowel of BECCVRI is somewhat rounded like a Greek ε; the second c is angular, like a very open v on its side; and the VR are conjoint. I do not know any other instance of this; and it is possible that I have not hit on the right reading. The last part of the R is rather distinguished by the colour than by any depression or groove, as the surface on both sides of it has flaked off. The possible readings of what remains of this line are, I think, BECC<sup>R</sup>V<sup>R</sup>BI.

As to the names on this Stone, the first one to strike me as familiar was *Cunaci*, in which I recognised at once the well known proper name borne by St. Cynog or Cynawg among others. This, of course, does not help one in the least to identify the person mentioned in the epitaph.

Then as to *Cunalipi*, that would now be *Cynllib* or

*Cynllyb*, and one of the intermediate forms between *Cunalip*- and the latter would be *Conlip*, of the existence of which there is proof in the occurrence of a derivative, *Conlipan*, in the *Liber Landavensis*, p. 193 (another MS. is said to give it as *Coulipan*). But neither does this decide between *Cynllyb* and *Cynllib*. The latter, however, seems to be placed beyond doubt by the modern form *Llibio*, which would seem to be of the same origin as the latter part of *Cunalipi*: it occurs in the name of the church of Llanllibio in Anglesey. The name is to be found written *Libiau* or *Lybiau* in the *Liber Landavensis*, pp. 185, 186, 227, 228; and I believe that I have found it spelt *Lipiau* in it, but I have lost the reference. What *lip* or *llib* may mean in these names is not certain, as the only actual Welsh words that suggest themselves are *enllib*, slander, and *llibyn*, soft, flabby, craven, devoid of pluck. On the whole it may be safe to equate *Cunalip-i* with the O. H. German *Hunlaif*, and to regard the second element as cognate with the Latin *linguo* (I leave). In that case the Welsh *Conlipan* might be identified with the Irish *Conligan*, mentioned by the Four Masters, A.D. 898. I cannot make anything of the latter portion of the epitaph. As a whole, however, it is to be compared with the one at Llanfaglan, reading

FILI LOVERNII

ANATEMORI.<sup>1</sup>

And it disposes, I think, of the opinion that this is to be read upwards, *Anatemori Fili Lovernii*, though it is to be understood precisely as if that had been intended. So in this instance the epitaph might be rendered so far as understood: "Cynllib's son Cynog [lies] here." Then the occurrence of the letter *p*, if my reading is the right one, is of very great interest. This, together with other things which have suggested themselves to me in connection with the interpretation of our old inscriptions, since the publication of the second edition of my little book on Welsh Philology, has made me modify the views there expressed by me respecting the whole

<sup>1</sup> See Hübner, No. 147.



history and origin of our old monuments ; but I am not going to inflict this piece of autobiography on the readers of the Journal. Rather would I conclude by expressing my thanks to Mr. Silvan Evans for his suggestions and a happy day spent in his company ; to Mr. Lewis and Mr. Roberts for their valuable information, and the first hint as to the discovery of the old monument ; and above all, to Mr. Drinkwater and his friend, who have kindly placed their notes, rubbings, and sketches, at my disposal. Indeed, Mr. Drinkwater has made many more notes than I can utilise, and I hope he may be induced to publish in the Journal what he has put together as to the church at Penmorfa, and the result of his examination of stones of interest at Tommen y Mur.

I send the sketches and also the rubbings (both Mr. Drinkwater's and my own) to the artist of the Association, who will, I have not the slightest doubt, be able to place far more clearly before the reader, in one view, what I have wasted several pages in doing very inadequately.

It would be unpardonable of me to close these remarks without mentioning the kindness shewn to us by Mrs. Evans ; and Captain Evans deserves the thanks of the Association for so promptly securing the Stone.

J. RHYS.

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*Postscript.*—After the above had been put into type, Mr. Drinkwater with Mr. Auden, Vicar of St. Julian's, Shrewsbury, arranged to go with me to the Gesail, to dig into the enclosure. We did so ; and Captain Griffiths very kindly assisted us with his presence and with his men ; but the digging was in vain, as we found nothing. We carefully examined the inscription again, and thought we found undeniable traces of the adverb *ic*. Moreover, it does not seem so correct to say that the *a* of *jacit* has been partly worn away, as that it was never finished, owing probably to the hardness of the superficial patch alluded to. I believe now more firmly than ever that the letter *I* have ventured to read *P* cannot have been anything else ; and Mr. Auden, after very careful examination of it with a glass, agrees with me. As a piece of guesswork, I may add that I find that *civi* would just fit the remains of the letters preceding *Beccuri*. It will be remembered that *cive* does duty for *civis* on one of the Penmachno stones.

Pwllheli.

J. R.

## MANORBEER CASTLE AND ITS EARLY OWNERS.

(SUPPLEMENTARY.)

BY SIR GEORGE DUCKETT, BART.

FURTHER researches have enabled us to supplement the article on the "Early Owners of Manorbeer", at p. 134 of volume xi, with the following particulars, bringing down the probable tenure of the Castle, etc., in the family of the Hollands, Earls of Huntingdon, for three generations; *i.e.*, until the attainder of the third Earl in 1461 (1 Edward IV), more than half a century later.

At the time of the forfeiture of John de Holland, first Earl of Huntingdon and Duke of Exeter, in 1399-1400, who had married Elizabeth, daughter of John of Gaunt, Duke of Lancaster, and was therefore brother-in-law of Henry IV, we find that the Castle and manor of Manorbeer, like that of Penally and Bigelly, had been in his possession for a considerable period, and presumably from the death of William de Wyndesore in 7 Ric. II (1384).

It is certain, however, and a recorded fact, that in 1 Henry IV, John de Wyndesore, by some means which have not become apparent, induced that King, on the forfeiture of the Earl, to grant letters patent conveying to him the above estates; but from the document (to be presently quoted) it is very doubtful whether he ever enjoyed possession at all; and if he did so, it was for a very limited time only; for although the estate should have fallen in due course into the King's hands in 1400 (in the first year of his reign), on the forfeiture of the said Earl's honours, the same appears at the time to have been held in trust for the Countess Elizabeth and her son, who was restored in blood in 1417. Either the near relationship of the Countess, as sister to Henry IV,

must have had its influence, and contributed to this departure from the ordinary course, in thus allowing her to retain possession of the lands : or her position was not affected by her husband's attainder, from the fact of his having settled the same on her by deed previous to the treason committed, and that he did so is manifest from the writ in question. The almost certain probability, therefore, is that at the death of William de Wyndesore, Richard II conveyed the estate to his cousin's husband, John de Holland, Earl of Huntingdon.

The connection of that Earl with Manorbeer has much historical interest. He was not only Lord Chamberlain of England, but had been created Duke of Exeter in 1397 by Richard II, as one of his confidants and adherers ; and being third son of Thomas Earl of Kent, by Joan Plantagenet, granddaughter of Edward I, was allied to the blood royal, and had married, as observed, Elizabeth, daughter of John of Gaunt.

After Henry IV had usurped the throne, and imprisoned his cousin Richard, he was a chief actor in a conspiracy to release the King, and deprive Henry of his crown and life, being leagued for this purpose with the Earls of Rutland, Kent, Gloucester, and Salisbury; and there is no doubt that the failure of the plot precipitated and quite settled the ultimate fate of King Richard.

Readers, moreover, in history will not fail to associate, within a year of this time, the revolt of Owen Glendower, the famous Prince of Wales, and how, with the Earls of Northumberland and Salisbury, he was defeated at the ever memorable battle of Shrewsbury in 1403, in which, by the way, the above named John de Wyndesore also took part.<sup>1</sup> These facts are noteworthy, because contemporaneous events tend not only to fix dates, but act as historical landmarks.

It was within nine or ten years of these occurrences

<sup>1</sup> Authenticated by his monument in Westminster Abbey.

that the persistent annoyance, and counter-claim set up in the interval by John de Wyndesore, brought matters to an issue as regarded the Castle and manor of Manorbeer. Proceedings were taken in Chancery, in 12 Henry IV, to decide the question. On the face of these it is evident that the King had been mistaken and deceived at the outset by John de Wyndesore by false "suggestion" and misinformation; and although the grant thus made to him and certain trustees in the writ named, in the first year of his reign, would under such circumstances have become void, the King determined, with a view to a final settlement of the dispute, to recall and cancel his letters patent conveying to him the estate.

Although we are in the dark as to the deception employed, it is somewhat remarkable that in the very year of the grant to John de Wyndesore a statute was passed (1 Henry IV) "to prevent deceits of the King with regard to the value of estates granted." (Jacob.) In this instance, however, the deception may have been equally a misrecital of his uncle's (William de Wyndesore) grant and deed of feoffment to himself, or misrepresentation as to the power of the latter to grant the lands, in which (from his *post-mortem* inquest at p. 138 of volume xi) we know that he had no fixed estate, though at the same time he had always wished, and was minded, to enfeof him in the same.

The record we give below at any rate deals with the final settlement of the Castle, manor, and lordship of Manorbeer, and the manor and lordship of Penally in the county of Pembroke, and confirms their possession to Elizabeth, Countess of Huntingdon, and her son. She had, after the death of the Earl, married, as her second husband, Sir John Cornwall, a Knight of the Garter, and at the time in question both he and she were seized of the estate.

The document entitled "De procedendo", apart from its value as authenticating the then owners of Manorbeer, has an especial interest in association with the

name of the celebrated Judge Gascoine, to whom the writ is directed. He it was, as will be remembered, who displayed such independence and boldness in the execution of his office, and committed to prison Prince Henry, the heir apparent, for contempt of court, whilst the conduct and traditionary remarks of the King on that occasion are equally worthy of remembrance.

The following is a rough abstract of the suit deciding the point :

The King to William Gascoigne<sup>1</sup> and others his justices.—Whereas lately, at the request of John Cornwall, Chivaler, and Elizabeth his wife, Countess of Huntingdon, praying us that whereas John Holland, late Earl of Huntingdon, Chamberlain of England, formerly husband of the said Countess, being seized in his demesne as of fee of the Castle, manor, and lordship of Maynebier, and of the manor and lordship of Pennaly in co. Pembroke, confirmed them, long before his forfeiture, by his charter to John Stevenes and Richard Shelley, clerk. Subsequently, at the suit and untruthful suggestion (*ad minus veram suggestionem*) of John de Wyndesore, we (the King) granted the same to him, together with other possessions late of David de Barry, Chivaler, in Begeley in Wales, together with all fees, etc., which the aforesaid John de Wyndesore and (his trustees) Thomas Holhirst, John Duket,<sup>2</sup> and Thomas Affrenthwayt, had as of the gift of David in Pembroke, which came to him by the forfeiture of the said Earl.

Stevens and Shelley being, therefore, so seized, in virtue of the Earl's charter, confirmed the same to the Countess some time after the death of the Earl, then the wife of Sir John Cornwall, for her own life ; so that

<sup>1</sup> Sir William Gascoine of Gowthorpe, Lord Chief Justice of England in 1401, married the daughter and coheirress of Sir Alexander Mowbray of Kirklington ; and a splendid monument in Harwood Church, in Yorkshire, perpetuates his name. He died in 1419 (14 Henry IV).

<sup>2</sup> John Duket of Grayrigg, co. Westmorland, had married John de Wyndesore's aunt, Margery, sister and heir of Baron de Wyndesore.

after the decease of the Countess, the Castle, etc., would remain to John, son of the aforesaid Earl and Countess, and his heirs for ever. Although the aforesaid late Earl had no estate in the same Castle, etc., at the time of his forfeiture, nor ever afterwards, neither was it found by office, nor was it seized into the King's hands, the Countess held it under the above charter and deed of trust. Nevertheless, John de Wyndesore annoyed them frequently by pretext of the King's letters patent, and therefore the King desires now to cancel the same letters.

The matter went into Chancery, and it is stated that an inquisition was held, which declared that John de Wyndesore had no right to the Castle or lands. The record concludes by the King directing that steps be taken forthwith to give Sir John Cornwall the benefit of this decision. (5 July, 12 Henry IV.)

*Close Roll, a'o 12 Henry IV, Membrane 4.<sup>1</sup>*

De procedendo.—Rex dilecto et fideli suo Willelmo Gascoigne, et sociis suis Justiciariis nostris ad placita coram nobis tenenda assignatis, Salutem. Cum nuper ad prosecutionem Johannis Cornewaill', Chivaler, et Elizabethæ uxoris ejus, Comitisse Huntynghdon', nobis supplicancium ut cum Johannes Holand', nuper Comes Huntynghton, et Camerarius Angliæ, quondam vir ipsius Comitisse, seiscitus fuisset in dominico suo ut de feodo et jure de Castro, manerio, et dominio de Maynerbier, et de manerio et dominio de Pennaly, cum pertinenciis, in comitatu Pembrochie, ac idem nuper Comes eadem Castrum, maneria et dominia, cum pertinenciis, diu ante forisfacturam suam, dederit et concesserit et carta sua confirmaverit Johanni Stevenes et Ricardo Shelley clerico, Habenda et tenenda eisdem Johanni Stevenes et Ricardo heredibus et assignatis suis imperpetuum, virtute quorum doni, concessionis, et confirmationis, predicti Johannes Stevenes et Ricardus inde fuerunt seisciti; Subsequenterque nos, ad minus veram suggestionem Johannis Wyndesore, per literas nostras patentes de gracia nostra speciali, inter alia dederimus et conces-

<sup>1</sup> We have to thank W. D. Selby, Esq., of the Record Office, for drawing our attention to this record, and collating it with the original.

serimus eidem Johanni Wyndesore Castrum, maneria, et dominia predicta, cum pertinenciis, per nomen Maneriorum de Maynerbier et Pennaly, cum pertinenciis, in comitatu Pembrochie in Wallia, unacum omnibus redditibus et serviciis omnium tenencium que fuerunt David de Barry, Chivaler, in Begeley in Wallia, et unacum omnibus terris et tenementis feodis militum, et advocacionibus beneficiorum ecclesiasticorum, que prefatus Johannes Wyndesore, ac Thomas Holhirst, Johannes Duket, et Thomas Affrenthwayt, habuerunt ex dono et concessione predicti David, in dicto comitatu Pembrochie, que ad manus nostras, ratione forisfacture predicti nuper Comitis, devenerunt, Habenda et tenenda eidem Johanni Wyndesore et heredibus suis imperpetuum, prout in literis nostris predictis plenius continentur; Ac ijdem Johannes Stevenes et Ricardus de Castro, maneriis, et dominiis predictis, cum pertinenciis, virtute doni, concessionis et confirmacionis predicti nuper Comitis, tempore confectionis literarum nostrarum predictarum et postea fuerint seisisi, et statum suum continuaverint usque ad certum tempus post mortem ipsius nuper Comitis, quod predictus Johannes Stevenes, per nomen Johannis Stevenes, Armigeri, de comitatu Pembrochie, Castrum, maneria, et dominia predicta, cum pertinenciis, per nomen Castri, manerij et domini de Manerbeer, et manerij et domini de Penale, cum pertinenciis, dedit et concessit, et carta sua confirmavit eidem Comitisse, ad tunc uxori predicti Johannis Cornewaill' ad vitam ipsius Comitisse, Ita quod post decessum ipsius Comitisse, predicta Castrum, maneria, et dominia, cum pertinenciis, Johanni filio predictorum nuper Comitis et Comitisse et heredibus suis remanerent imperpetuum; Ac prefati Johannes Cornewaill' et Comitissa, virtute doni, concessionis et confirmacionis predicti Johannis Stevenes, inde fuerint seisisi, et postmodum prefatus Ricardus cartam ipsius Johannis Stevenes prefate Comitisse in hac parte confectam, ac omnia in ea contenta nec non statum et possessionem ipsius Comitisse in Castro, maneriis, et dominiis predictis, cum pertinenciis, approbaverit, ratificaverit, concesserit et confirmaverit, et post decessum ipsius Comitisse prefato Johanni, filio predictorum nuper Comitis et Comitisse, heredibus et assignatis suis imperpetuum; et licet predictus nuper Comes nichil habuerit in eisdem, tempore forisfacture predictae, nec unquam postea, nec ullum officium pro nobis inde compertum fuerit, nec in manus nostras extiterint seisisa; Ac predicti Johannes Cornewaill' et Comitissa, pretextu tam doni, concessionis, et confirmacionis prefati Johannis Stevenes, quam approbacionis, ratificacionis, concessionis et confirmacionis predicti Ricardi, eidem Comitisse inde in forma predicta factorum, possessionem Castri, maneriorum, et dominio-



rum predictorum, cum pertinenciis, debite tenuerint, et statum suum inde continuaverint, idem tamen Johannes Wyndesore ipsos Johannem Cornewail' et Comitissam super possessione sua Castri, maneriorum et dominiorum predictorum, cum pertinenciis, diversis vicibus, pretextu literarumstrarum patencium predictarum, vexavit et inquietavit et ad diversos labores et expensas eos posuit, ipsosque adhuc inquietat, indebite et injuste, Vellemus dictas literas nostras, prefato Johanni Wyndesore in hac parte factas, revocari et adnullari jubere per breve nostrum, Preceperimus Vicecomiti nostro Herefordie quod scire faceret prefato Johanni Wyndesore, quod esset coram nobis in Cancellaria nostra ad certum diem jam preteritum, ubicumque tunc foret, ad ostendendum si quid pro nobis aut pro se ipso haberet, vel dicere sciret, quare litere nostre predictae sibi inde sic facte, revocari et adnullari non deberent, et ad faciendum ulterius et recipiendum quod Curia nostra consideraret in hac parte; Ac retornato brevi predicto in Cancellaria predicta ad diem predictum per prefatum Vicecomitem, et eodem brevi coram nobis misso discutiendo, necnon tam prefatis Johanne Cornewail' et Comitissa per Johannem Hulton' attornatum suum, quam prefato Johanne Wyndesore, juxta premunicionem eis in hac parte factam, in propria persona sua coram nobis ad diem predictum comparentibus, predictus Johannes Wyndesore placitando in loquela predicta allegaverit quod nos, ratione forisfacture predicti nuper Comitis, Castrum, dominia, et maneria predicta, cum pertinenciis, in manus nostras seisivimus, et per literas nostras patentes dedimus, et concessimus eidem Johanni Wyndesore, Castrum, dominia, et maneria predicta, cum pertinenciis, per nomen manerij de Maynerbier et Pennaly cum pertinenciis, in comitatu Pembrochie in Wallia, una cum omnibus redditibus et serviciis omnium tenencium que fuerunt David Barry, Chivaler, in Begeley in Wallia, et una cum omnibus terris et tenementis feodis militum et advocacionibus beneficiorum ecclesiasticorum que prefatus Johannes Wyndesore, ac Thomas Holhirst, Johannes Duket, et Thomas Affrenthwayt, habuerunt de dono et concessione predicti David, in dicto comitatu Pembrochie, que ad manus nostras ratione forisfacture dicti nuper Comitis devenerunt, Habenda et tenenda eidem Johanni Wyndesore et heredibus suis de nobis et heredibus nostris imperpetuum, ac pretextu doni et concessionis predictorum, idem Johannes Wyndesore fuit in possessione Castri, dominiorum, et maneriorum predictorum, cum pertinenciis, asserendo quod ipse tenet tenementa predicta ex concessione nostra, unde non intendebat quod vos in placito predicto nobis inconsultis ulterius procedere velletis, petendo de nobis auxilium quod sibi extitit

concessum ut dicitur, quo pretexto vos in placito predicto ulterius procedere distulistis, et adhuc differtis in ipsorum Johannis Cornewail' et Comitisse dampnum non modicum et gravamen; et nos nolentes eisdem Johanni Cornewail' et Comitisse justiciam differri, per aliud breve nostrum, vobis mandaverimus quod si in placito predicto coram nobis taliter esset processum et allegatum, tunc ulterius in placito illo cum ea celeritate qua de jure et secundum legem et consuetudinem regni nostri Anglie possetis, procederetis, et partibus justiciam fieri faceretis, allegacione predicta non obstante, dumtamen ad judicium inde reddendum nobis inconsultis nullatenus procederetis; Jamque ex parte predictorum Johannis Cornewail' et Comitisse nobis sit ostensum, quod licet per veredictum juratorum inquisicionis, in quam partes predictae se inde posuerunt, compertum existat quod predictus Johannes Wyndesore non fuit seisisus de predictis Castro, manerio, et dominio de Maynerbier, ac de manerio et de dominio de Pennaly, cum pertinenciis, in comitatu Pembrochie in Wallia; vos tamen, pro eo quod in dicto brevi nostro expressa fit mencio quod ad judicium in hac parte reddendum nobis inconsultis procedi non deberet, ad judicium predictum reddendum procedere hucusque distulistis et adhuc differtis in ipsorum Johannis Cornewail' et Comitisse dampnum non modicum et gravamen, unde nobis supplicarunt ut ad reddicionem judicii illius procedi jubere velimus; Nos nolentes eisdem Johanni Cornewail' et Comitisse justiciam ulterius differri in hac parte, Vobis mandamus quod si in placito predicto coram nobis taliter sit processum et allegatum, tunc ad judicium inde reddendum, cum ea celeritate qua de jure et secundum legem et consuetudinem predictas poteritis, procedatis, et partibus predictis plenam et celerem justiciam in hac parte fieri faciatis, allocacione (*sic*) predicta, seu eo quod in dicto brevi nostro de procedendo expressa fit mencio, quod ad judicium predictum reddendum nobis inconsultis minime procederetis non obstante. Teste Rege apud Westmonasterium, quinto die Julij.

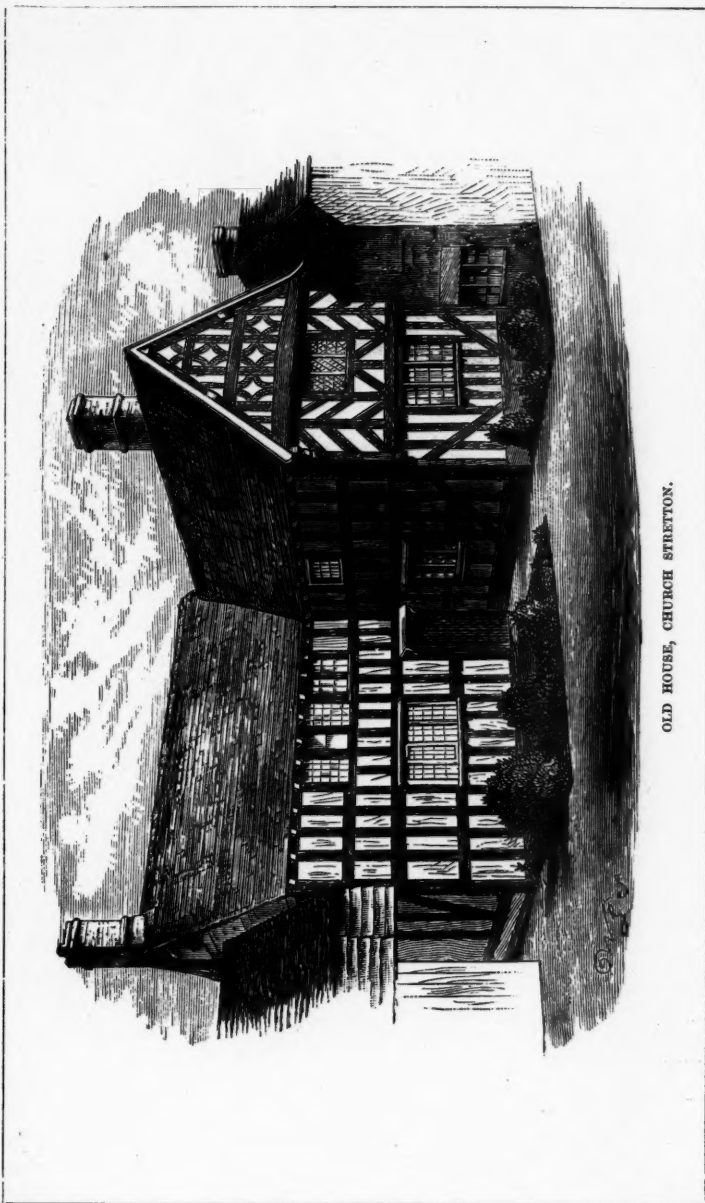
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## CHURCH STRETTON.

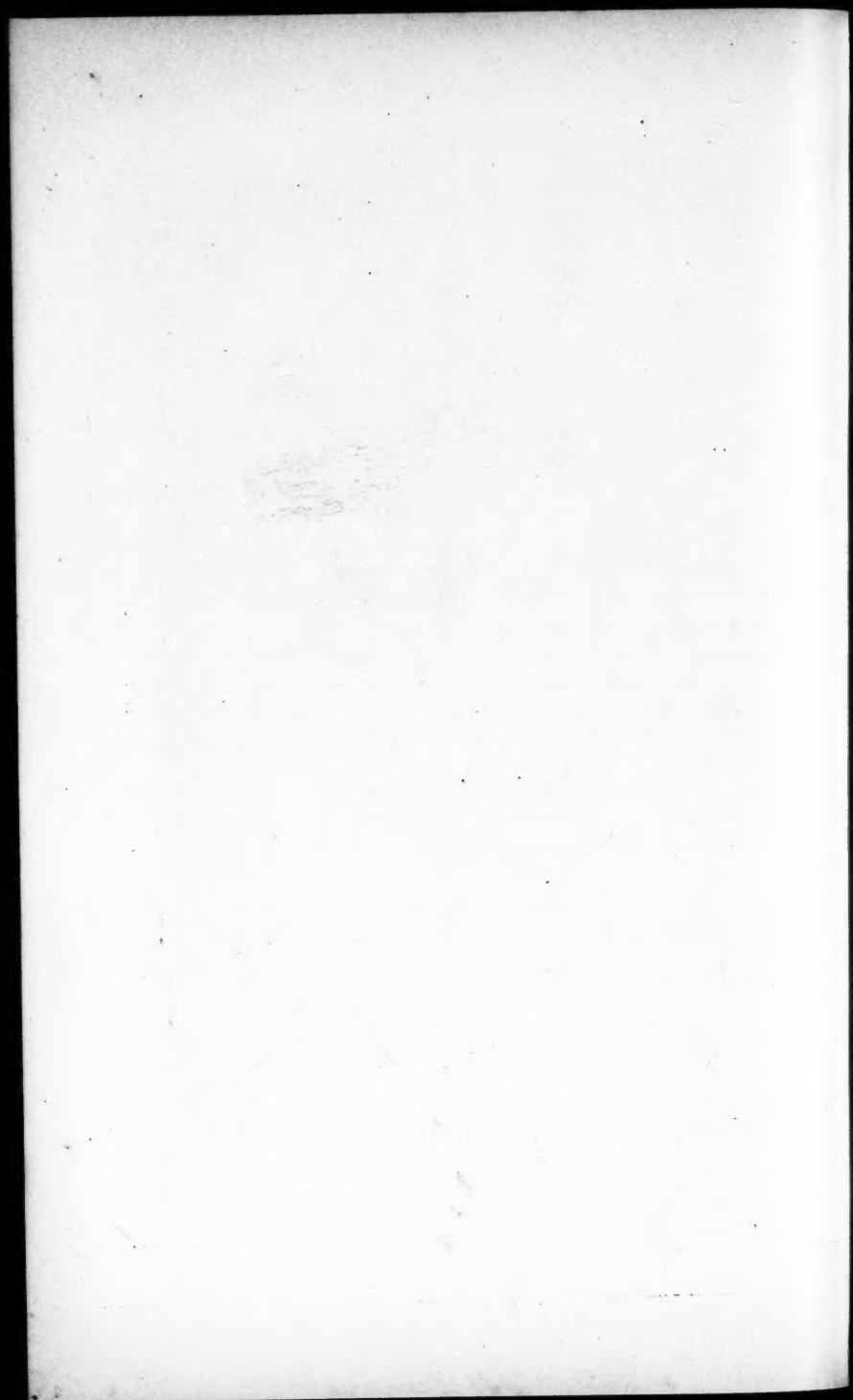
THIS well known village, nestling under the mountain, presents a very pleasant picture to the railway traveller; and when more of the timber buildings existed than at present, the view was still more picturesque, although only as regards the absence of the more remarkable structures. Among these the former Town Hall may be mentioned, which has been superseded by a building probably more convenient, but by no means equal in general effect. It is given in the *Castles and Mansions of Shropshire*, although not strictly being one or the other; but the late Mrs. Acton, to whose generosity and liberality Shropshire is deeply indebted, thought it deserving a place in her volume; otherwise no record of it was in existence, except a sketch which she copied.

According to her the original Hall was built in 1617 (14 James I), when, on the petition of Bonham Norton and others to be allowed to establish a market every Thursday, and to hold the stalls for him and his heirs, he built the Market House at his own cost, or got others to assist. But long before this date the inhabitants of Stretton had a much earlier grant (10-Edward III, 1331) for holding a market on Thursday, and a fair on the day before and the day after the Exaltation of the Cross, 14 September.

Mrs. Acton states that Bonham Norton, who was a London stationer, and the purchaser of the Stanton Lacy and some estates in Stretton, received a confirmation of the above grant of 1617; but no mention is made of such confirmation, or any allusion to the grant of 1331; if such was the case, the older grant must not only have ceased, but be completely forgotten. Bonham Norton makes no mention of it in his petition to James, as might have been expected. As Mrs. Acton's



OLD HOUSE, CHURCH STRETTON.



work is not easily procured, it may be thought desirable to reproduce it in a future Number of the *Archæologia Cambrensis*.

Church Stretton is situated between two hamlets, All Stretton and Long Stretton. As the central Stretton alone has the church, its name may have been given to it for that reason; but so many parishes have the same prefix, as Church Hill, Church Brampton, Church Stanton, Church Stone, and Church Stoke, and others, that Church Stretton is probably another example, without any reference to the existence of the two hamlets, which more probably took their names from the parish than gave them to it.

The examples of domestic architecture are few, most being small buildings not far removed from cottages; but there is an exception, viz., the house here faithfully represented from a drawing of Mr. W. G. Smith, Draughtsman of the Society. The house seems to have been originally built as it now stands, and was an important edifice at the time. Little is known of its history, except that it became, by purchase, the property of Ralph A. Benson, Esq., of Lutwyche Hall, who kindly acted as Chairman of the Local Committee at the Stretton Meeting. That it is in such safe hands is a matter of congratulation to all who can appreciate its value.

E. L. BARNWELL.

Melksham. July 14, 1882.

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## LLYWELYN AB SEISYLLT AND HIS TIMES.

In the Welsh History of Wales, by the late Rev. Thomas Price of Cwm Du (better known, perhaps, among his countrymen by his *nom de plume*, or Bardic *soubriquet* of "Carnhuanawc"), it is said that in the year 994—that is to say, seventy-two years before the Norman conquest of England—the throne of all Wales ("Cymru oll") was vacant for some years. Llywelyn ab Seisyllt (or, as some call him, Sitsyllt) was too young to assume the government. He was but fourteen years old, yet was married to Angharad, the only daughter and heiress of Meredydd, the son of Owen, the son of Howel the Good. What her age was when she was thus given in marriage to Llywelyn (thus carrying to her husband the hereditary right to the supreme sovereignty of her great-grandfather) is not stated. Seisyllt, the father of Llywelyn, was ninth in descent from Prince Gwyddno Garanhir, and was married to the Princess Trawst, daughter and heiress of Elisau, second son of Anarawd, son of Rhodri Mawr. Seisyllt had another son Einion of Mathafarn, Lord of Meirionydd (v. *supra*, p. 131.)

Besides Llywelyn, there was living another Prince, who, but for the fact that he was also a child, might have competed with him for the sovereignty. This was Iago, the son of Idwal, the son of Meurig, the son of Idwal Voel, the son of Anarawd, the son of Rhodri Mawr. Idwal Voel had inherited from his father Anarawd the kingdom of Gwynedd; but had been slain, with his brother Elisau, in 940, by the Saxons and Danes, who had united their forces against him in consequence of his refusal to pay to Edmund, the Saxon King, the tribute that had been enforced by Athelstan his father. Meurig was his eldest son; but had been set aside by the people of Gwynedd, for some reason not mentioned by the chroniclers, as unworthy to reign over them.



Besides Meurig, Idwal Voel had left five other sons, Ieuan, Iago, Cynan, Idwal Vychan (or the younger), and Rhodri. Of these we find two only, Iago and Idwal, in possession of the sovereignty of Gwynedd about the year 950. Hywel Dda, whose sovereignty over the whole of Wales had for many years been undisputed, had died in 948. But no sooner was the good King in his grave than a fierce antagonism arose for the possession of his dominions between his sons, of whom there were four surviving (Cadogan, one son, having been slain by the Saxons), Owen, Rhodri, Rhun, and Idwal, and the five younger sons of Idwal Voel. The contest seems to have commenced with the invasion of South Wales by the latter. Several fierce engagements were fought, in which Iago and Idwal (who in one copy of the *Annales Cambriæ* are said to have been previously driven out of their kingdom by Howel himself) cut the most prominent figure. In the last contest, at Carno, they are said to have come off victorious. After it, at all events, they are found in undisputed possession of the sovereignty of Gwynedd, while that of the rest of Wales is left to the sons of Howel. But one of them, at least, could not be contented to share the government peaceably with his brother. In 970 Iago caused his brother Ieuan to be blinded, and afterwards strangled in prison.

Of the other sons of Idwal, what became of Cynan does not appear. Rhodri was slain in 966;<sup>1</sup> and his son Cystenin Dda, after hiring a body of piratical Danes under Godfrey the Viking, in 980, to ravage Mona and Lley (probably with the view to obtaining Gwynedd for himself), was slain by his cousin Howel, the son of Ieuan, at the battle of Hirbarth. Idwal Vychan, the fifth son of Idwal Voel, was murdered by the same Howel; at whose hands also his uncle Meurig, who had been set aside as unworthy of the crown, died in prison, after being deprived of sight, in 973.<sup>2</sup> For these and other crimes this Prince was surnamed "Ddrwg"

<sup>1</sup> *Annales Cambriæ*, p. 19.

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<sup>2</sup> *Ibid.*

(or the Bad) by his subjects. The redeeming feature in his character is that he raised an army against his uncle Iago, to avenge the cruelty, treachery, and murder perpetrated upon his father Ieuan, and drove him out of his kingdom, when he took refuge at the court of Edgar, the English King. Miss Jane Williams tells us<sup>1</sup> that Edgar "compelled King Howel to admit King Iago to a share of the kingdom of Gwynedd, and to a joint exercise of the sovereignty of Wales", and that the territory of Arvon became his portion. This, however, does not appear in the *Chronicles*, and is admitted by her to be an inference drawn from the general circumstances of the case. According to the Aberpergwm copy, Hywel ab Ieuan went in the year 978 against the supporters of his uncle Iago, and with him a great host of Saxons, and ravaged Lleyn and Clynog Fawr woefully, destroying the churches, blinding many of Iago's partisans, and cruelly devastating the country.

In 984, we learn from the *Chronicle*, "Howel ap Ieuan went to England against the Saxons and Mercians who had fought on the part of Iago his uncle, and there was slain with a great number of his men." All that is said in the Record Office edition of the events of this year, is that "Iago was captured; and Howel, son of Ieuaf, had the victory, and conquered the territory of Iago." It seems strange that Ab Ithel, in the otherwise very full and complete account which he gives in his Preface to the Record Office edition of the *Chronicle*, should have left utterly unnoticed the Aberpergwm copy, which is that printed in the text of the *Myvyrian Archaeology*, and quoted by Carnhuanawc, throughout the course of his narrative, as his principal authority. This copy gives generally a fuller, more detailed, and circumstantial account of the events of each year than any of the other manuscript copies; and although Ab Ithel may have conceived that this circumstance detracts from its authority, as shewing that copy to be of more modern date, and so liable to interpolation from other and less

<sup>1</sup> *History of Wales*, p. 157.

trustworthy sources, still many of the details, so far as I have been able to compare them, appear to be so consistent with the facts related in the other copies, and with events known to us from other sources, as well as with inferences deducible from reason, as to go far to shew that its writer had more than mere conjecture to rely upon for his statements, and to warrant belief that the transcript from which that at Aberpergwm was copied was on the whole derived from authentic sources, though statements contained in it here and there may be extravagant and improbable, and its orthography modernised.

The statement that Iago was captured by his nephew Hywel Ddrwg seems to justify Miss Jane Williams in concluding that he had been reinstated by Edgar, otherwise he could scarcely have been taken prisoner while maintaining a contest in Lleyn. This capture is the last we hear of him, neither Carnhuanawc nor Miss Williams pretending to tell us how this fratricidal monarch came by his end; and their silence is justified by that of the Chronicles. Probably he died in prison, as they would scarcely have done less than record it, as in other similar cases, had he been put to a violent death,—a deed that could more readily have been justified by that bad Prince than others of his acts, as being but the righteous retribution for his father's murder.

Howel himself seems not to have survived the year.<sup>1</sup> He had previously deprived of his sight Meurig, the eldest son of Idwal Voel, who, as has been said, had been deemed too devoid of talent, or disqualified by some other disability, to reign; and his eldest son, Ionfal, had risen in arms to avenge him, and also to claim the throne of Gwynedd in right of primogeniture,—a proceeding that might be regarded as unexceptionable but for his act in allying himself with his country's enemies, the Saxons, and even the Danes, against those over whom he claimed to rule. But he met with a competi-

<sup>1</sup> In 985 Meurig, another son of Ieuan, is mentioned as slain, but with no circumstance of time or place.

tor in Cadwallawn, the brother of Howel, by whom he was defeated and slain.

Here, however, another competitor for the throne of Gwynedd, and for the sovereignty of all Wales, appears upon the scene in the person of Meredydd, Prince of South Wales, grandson of Howel through Owen his father, who had assumed the sovereignty of South Wales and Powys during the minority of his nephews Edwin and Tewdwr, the sons of Einion his elder brother. This Prince is found marching upon Gwynedd from the south, at the head of a powerful army, and is met by Cadwallawn, who had assumed the crown of Gwynedd on the death of Ionfal. Cadwallawn with his brother Meurig are defeated and slain; and thus again the sovereignty of Wales is consolidated in a single hand in Meredydd ab Owen, a prince of the house of Hywel Dda, with the title, "Brenin Cymru Oll." This was in 985, but his reign enjoyed but a short period of tranquillity. "In 987 Godfrey the Dane, who had in the first instance been invited by the partisans of Ieuan ab Idwal Foel, and his black host, for the third time revisited Mona, defeated the forces of King Meredydd, and took 2,000 prisoners; among them Llywarch, the King's brother, whose eyes they put out. After which they made a similar triumphant raid upon the coast of South Wales.

Nor was Meredydd otherwise left in undisturbed possession of his throne. Idwal, the younger son of Meurig, was elected as a rival monarch by the people of Gwynedd in 992, during the absence of Meredydd in South Wales, opposing the Danes; whom, however, he was compelled to buy off with a penny poll-tax as the price of their departure.

For his kingdom of South Wales, Meredydd had also a competitor in the person of his nephew, Edwin ab Einion, who was not ashamed to oppose him with a hired band of Mercians, while his antagonist again appears at the head of a body of Danish mercenaries. The real sufferers by these internecine contests were

the people, whose lands were ravaged by both parties with fire and sword.

Returned to the north, Meredydd met Idwal at Llangwm, where he was worsted in the engagement, with the loss of a leader, Tewdwr, his brother Einion's son. The following year, 995, he died.

Nor was Idwal's triumph of long duration. Soon after he had to face another irruption of a horde of Danish pirates under Sweyn, who landed in Gwynedd from Man. Boldly and valiantly he encountered them at Penmynydd, and gave one example at least of a glorious death, in the person of a Cymric king slain in the defence of his country from a foreign aggressor.

Meredydd survived him but a short time, and left, as has been said, an only daughter, Angharad, who became the wife of Llywelyn ab Seisyllt in the memorable year when Wales was without a prince, though not long to remain so. In the words of Miss Jane Williams, "King Idwal left only a son named Iago, who was still a child. Cynan, the son of Howel the Bad, sprang eagerly upon the throne of Gwynedd, while Llewelyn ab Seisyllt, the son of Trawst, and the husband of Angharad, seized with a tenacious grasp upon the sceptres of Powys and Deheubarth, A.D. 998" (p.162.)

Thus far we have brought the history of Gwynedd back to the point whence we started, the minority of Llywelyn ab Seisyllt, and Iago ab Idwal. In the course of it we have seen the throne of Gwynedd occupied successively by princes of the house of Anarawd (who derived it from the bequest of his father, Rhodri Mawr, King of all Wales), seized by a prince of the house of Hywel Dda, grandson of Rhodri through Cadell, a brother of Anarawd, who by a similar bequest inherited the kingdom of South Wales, while to their brother Merfyn was bequeathed the kingdom of Powys.

Thus far all the Chronicles seem to agree; but according to one authority (a short document of late transcription in the Iolo MSS.) some extraordinary conditions were attached to these bequests; and it may be an

interesting question whether these conditions, supposing them to have been really propounded, and accepted by the Cymric people, had they been adhered to, were calculated to save the country from those internecine conflicts which proved its destruction; or whether they may not rather have operated to produce the dissensions which issued in those conflicts. It is, indeed, possible that the conditions never really existed, save in the imagination of those who either may have invented them, at a later period, for a special purpose, or may have too easily imagined that such must have been attached to the possession of the respective sovereignties from a knowledge of the general principles on which the transmission of property and authority was based, as received from their forefathers. But on the whole it appears to be the least improbable supposition that the document containing these conditions is a genuine and authentic one, and that it represents truly the political state of the country as it existed on the death of Rhodri, since there is nothing contained in it contradictory to the history as it appears in the acts of the several princes; but, on the contrary, much which is calculated to throw light upon their otherwise often inexplicable conduct.

In this document we read: "The sovereignty of Wales Paramount ('Teyrnedd Penraith'), consisting of the eldest of the three diademed princes, enthroned kings, and their stocks of sovereignty, or the inherence by which sovereignty is rendered perfect. But a sovereign stock is not of the same principle in each of the three provinces, being to some extent different in each." These differences are specified in other paragraphs of the document. Again: "A king paramount is a monarch placed in supreme authority over other kings; his voice being superior to theirs, individually and collectively; and the sovereign whom the confederation might deem the wisest and bravest of all the allied kings was the personage selected for this supreme dignity, and to him appertained the prerogative of monarch of the whole

island of Britain and of all its kings." "The prerogative of the sovereignty of Wales Paramount is to select the wisest and bravest of its kings to be instated as the predominant prince and juridical chief of the whole island of Britain." Again: "A head of kindred (a 'Pencenedl') is an elder of tribe, kindred, and family, who enjoys thorough enfranchisement; and one, consequently, whose kindred of the same family and tribe partake of his privileges to the ninth generation, lineally and collaterally. A man of *thorough* enfranchisement is one who is neither mad nor imbecile, neither blind nor dumb, neither deaf nor lame, nor yet one of a strange tongue; one who is neither unskilful nor unlearned, who is not married to a natural alien, and who is not a condemned criminal; one who is not liable to the claim of retribution for murder, nor yet for insult, and who has not fled in the day of hostility and battle; but he is one who knows all the usages and prerogatives of the sovereignty of the Isle of Britain, and the privileges of every free-born Cambrian. A man thus capacitated, and being descended from elders of his tribe and family, is entitled to the rank of 'head of kindred' in the supreme council of sovereignty in all courts of country and kindred, and in all courts of law and judgment. He claims also the position of father to every fatherless orphan of his tribe, kindred, and family; and it pertains to him to correct all the transgressions of his tribe and kindred, without subjecting himself thereby to any penalties resulting from claims of redress. A 'head of kindred' is also privileged to convoke a jury, and stir up a gathering of country and kindred on any lawful occasion; and no authority can counteract such a proceeding, for *the integrity of sovereignty* depends on heads of kindred, to whom should be presented every appeal against wrong and illegality inflicted on any of their kindred."

The document defines also the three sovereignties of Dinevor, Aberffraw, and Mathraual: the first consisting of king, lords of the court and throne, and country;



the second, of king, fifteen tribes of Gwynedd, and justices of court; the third, of king, the chief families (*gwelygorddau*) of Powys, and justices of court. In each the country, tribes, or chief families, in fact the body of landed proprietors, were to be represented by the "Pencenhedloedd" (or heads of kindred), nearly corresponding probably to the heads or chiefs of clans in Scotland, and septs in Ireland.<sup>1</sup>

The document also provides, in a very curious and remarkable manner, for a court of arbitration for the three provinces, the seats of which were to be respectively at Bwlch y Pawl for disputes between Dinevawr and Aberffraw, the King of Powys to preside; at Rhyd Helyg, on the Wye, for Mathraual and Dynevawr, the King of Gwynedd to preside; at Dol yr Hunedd, in Iâl, for Mathraual and Aberffraw, the King of Dinevawr to preside. And it is added that "wherever the seat of arbitration shall be, there shall also reside the aggregate sovereignty of the three provinces."

It would carry me too far to attempt to investigate thoroughly here these constitutions. If they really were reduced to writing, or were even practically acted

<sup>1</sup> Glamorgan and the territory between Wye and Severn were excluded from the prerogatives of supreme sovereignty over the rest of Wales; why, is not made clearly to appear, and is the more unaccountable since they were, to all appearance, equally Cymric at this time with the rest of the nation. Was it because of their Silurian, i.e., Iberian origin? There is a second, and apparently a subsidiary document to the former, setting forth a system of regulations, stated to have been determined on and agreed to by the concurrent enactment of the five royal tribes of Wales in federal council, in the time of King Edgar, for the course to be pursued by each sovereignty in case of invasion by a foreign enemy. In this it is remarkable that the paramount sovereignty is declared to be invested in the King of England, as the richest and most powerful, in case "the hostile aggression come by sea from a foreign country", each of the other kings of the island being "entitled to give his counsel in the assembly of the King of England." If this be truly an original document (and it is difficult to see why it should not), no more striking proof could be afforded of the height of the power attained by this monarch over the sovereigns of Wales. Hence the famous story of his having been rowed on the Dee, at Chester, by eight of the Welsh princes, may not seem so improbable as has been supposed.

on as unwritten law, before the time of Hywel Dda, they may have contained within themselves the elements of disputation, leading inherently to interminable discord, contention, and hatred. Suffice it to say that the Welsh Code of Hywel Dda appears to contain no direct provision for the paramount sovereignty. His system of legislation, however, may have been designed as a superstructure based upon that which is contained in these constitutions. The words "Pencenedl" and "Penraith" occur in the Laws; the one as expressive of headship of a clan; the other, however, seems expressive of little more than that of chief of a jury empannelled for legal purgation of crimes. Miss Jane Williams expresses implicit belief in them; but they are wholly unnoticed by Carnhuanawc; in whose day, indeed, they existed as yet but in manuscript; but in manuscript to which it is reasonable to suppose that he may have had access. And meagre as the notices in the Chronicles (*Brutiau* as they are termed in Welsh) are, arising often, doubtless, from the ignorance of the writers,—an ignorance which has extended itself to the works of many so called historical writers down to our own day,—as to what really constitute the salient points of history, still it is difficult to imagine that they should not have forced themselves more frequently into their annals had they embodied the principles ordinarily acted upon, or at least professedly so, in the relations between the Cymric princes with their subjects and with one another.

According to the Constitutions, the respective kings seem scarcely empowered to act in any important matter affecting the whole of their kingdom without the advice and consent of their heads of kindred in solemn council assembled; nor, again, the king paramount without those of an assembly composed of the heads of kindred of the three kingdoms together. Yet in every case, as far as appears from the Chronicles, the kings appear to take the initiative on their own entire responsibility, without any reference whatever to the assent or consent of what would, in the opposite case, be not

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improperly termed their parliament: not, indeed, precisely as constituted now, but as it existed in England, under the name of "Witangemot", under the early Saxon kings. Instead of which we find little but violent invasion, and overthrow of one king or prince by another, himself to be set upon and overthrown, and delivered up to mutilation, imprisonment, or even a cruel death, often at the hands of his nearest, and who should have been dearest, relatives.

The course of internecine warfare commences even as early as the reigns of the sons of Rhodri. In 892 Anarawd (who is described in one *Brut* as the eldest, in another as the youngest of the sons of Rhodri) falls upon the territories of his brother Cadell (described also in another *Brut* as the eldest), and most cruelly burns all the houses and crops in Dyfed and Ystrad Tywi, *i.e.*, his legitimate kingdom of South Wales.<sup>1</sup> In 907 Cadell dies, and this deed of atrocity offers apparently no bar to the succession of Anarawd to the paramount sovereignty of Wales. Cadell is succeeded as King of South Wales and Powys by his son Howel the Good. Meurig, his second son, slays (how or why is not stated) his brother Clydawc. What became of Meurig, or whether he was slain in retaliation by any one, the chroniclers omit to mention.

On the death of Anarawd, in 913, Hywel Dda becomes at least paramount sovereign of Wales, if not, indeed, King of all Wales; while Idwal Foel, son of Anarawd, who had previously borne that title, becomes sovereign of Gwynedd only; a fact which goes far to prove that the paramount sovereignty was not, at least, understood at that time to descend in lineal succession from father to son. What was the precise and positive difference between these two I have not found clearly laid down in any modern history of Wales. As I understand it, the difference consists in this,—that the sovereign paramount had a superiority of little more than precedence, entitling him to the office of president in a national assembly of all the three kingdoms together;

<sup>1</sup> *Hanes Cymru*, p. 402.

while the "Brenin Cymru Oll" actually held the sceptre of the three kingdoms, by virtue of conquest or of hereditary right, to the same extent, and in the same manner, as if he had been King of Gwynedd, Powys, or Dyfed only.

In the year 907 or 909, when Cadell, his father, died, Howel had also succeeded to the kingdom of Powys, which had been seized by his father Cadell on the death of his brother Merfyn; or according to the Aberpergwm copy of the *Chronicle of the Princes*, in the second year of his reign, twenty-five years before, when he had dispossessed his brother by violence,—a statement which, it is only just to observe, is wholly unsupported by the other *Bruts*. This chronicle states that on the death of Idwal Foel at the hands of the Saxons and Danes, in 940, Hywel Dda took possession of all Wales,—“holl Gymry” (*Myv. Arch.*, p. 690); a statement which it is difficult to reconcile with the fact that Idwal Voel and his sons after him appear to have reigned in Gwynedd peaceably during his lifetime. Howel was at that time sovereign paramount of Wales, for which it may have been thought, as Miss Jane Williams and even Carnhuanawc seem to think, that the actual possession of the throne of each one of the three kingdoms was required. This, as we have seen, according to the explanation afforded by the document in the Iolo MSS., is incorrect, since according to it the sovereign of any one of the three kingdoms might be paramount over the other two, provided only he were duly elected by the heads of kindred in solemn assembly, and provided he was the eldest of the three, and duly qualified by knowledge, courage, and ability.

It appears to me that the failure duly to recognise this important fact has led to much misinterpretation of the history of Wales at this period. An example of this would seem to be the statement of Miss Jane Williams (p. 151), that “at the death of Idwal Voel his sons found it necessary to suppress their murmurs, and quietly to allow King Howel Dda to assume the crown of Gwynedd”; and in one chronicle it is certainly stated

that he drove those princes out of their kingdom of Gwynedd. If it is true that he did so, it is difficult to recognise how such an act would accord with the surname which his countrymen then and ever since have gratefully accorded him, of "the Good", the noblest (far nobler than "Great") that any sovereign can enjoy. He could not rightfully have enjoyed it, except by solemn election of the legislative assembly, so to speak, of the country itself; and nothing save the most glaring demerit on the part of the direct heirs, the sons of Idwal Voel, and even others nearer, perhaps, in blood than himself, could have warranted that assembly in fixing their choice upon him. To the rest of this historian's statement respecting him no exception need be taken, comprising, as it does, in a sentence, that of all persons and times: "This excellent man seemed to desire regal power merely for the sake of making all his subjects happy; and his private conduct and public government were so uniformly discreet, equitable, and benevolent, that he secured universal reverence and goodwill. Contemporary chroniclers style him the chief and glory of the Britons, and time has failed to dim the calm halo which encircles his name." (P. 152.)

One year has passed from the death of this good, great, and peaceable monarch, and the scene becomes woefully transformed. Iago and Ieuan, the sons of Idwal Voel, occupy jointly the throne of Gwynedd; Owen, the eldest son of Hywel Dda, those of Powys and Deheubarth. With these commences an internecine conflict which, interrupted only by conflicts with the English and Danes, lasts till the end of the century. All at once we find Iago and Ieuan descending upon Owen's kingdom of South Wales, and after two battles at Carno and Abercywyn, devastating Dyfed with fire and sword. They in turn are chased back into Gwynedd, where an indecisive battle is fought with great slaughter on both sides, at a place called in the old orthography "Gwrgystu" in Aberconwy, transformed in the modernised transcript of Aberpergwm into Llanrwst, which may or may not be correct.

Then, A.D. 958, we find Owain devastating Gorwenydd, a territory forming part of the independent dominion of Morgan Mawr, King of Glamorgan, and ruthlessly destroying religious houses; an invasion probably prompted only by ambition or by detestation of the English influence, then paramount at the court of Morgan; but which is ascribed by Carnhuanawc to a question of ecclesiastical discipline relating to the marriage of the clergy, because Englishmen had been received into those houses; but which, if true, that circumstance tends to shew must have been deemed an innovation by the body of the Welsh clergy. The proceeding brought down upon him the intervention of Edgar, who is said to have assembled the notables of Glamorgan much in the manner described in the document of the Iolo MSS., who determined the question in favour of Morgan, and against Owen.

In 962 we find Edgar in Gwynedd, and settling a colony of Danes in Mona; then at Caerlleon on Usk, where he makes peace with Morgan on condition of receiving from him yearly a tribute of one hundred brindled cows, himself engaging to confirm him in his kingdom; while on Owen, who also appears there, is imposed the tribute specified (and thus acknowledged to be due) in the Laws of Hywel Dda,—a tribute that had been paid to Egbert by his great-grandfather Rhodri, and enjoined by him on his sons, probably as a peaceful measure of policy, in favour of the more powerful Saxon monarch. After which he is said to have returned to Gwynedd, and exacted from Iago and Ieuan the tribute of the famous three hundred wolves' heads, which some have declined to accept as genuine. But to discuss the question would here be foreign to our purpose.

After Cynan ab Hywel Ddrwg had ascended the throne of Gwynedd, a usurper appears upon the scene in the person of Aeddan ab Blegwryd, who seized first upon Deheubarth and Powys, the dominions of Llywelyn ab Seisyllt, when as yet too young to defend them, and marching towards Gwynedd was met by Cynan

in the field ; but the latter was defeated and slain, and Aeddan became possessed of the whole Cymric territory "from sea to sea". He reigned for some years peaceably and well, repairing, to the best of his ability, the destruction effected in former reigns. But in 1013 Llywelyn ab Seisyllt having attained his majority, attacked Aeddan, defeated and slew him together with his four sons or nephews, and thus established himself, not virtually merely as king paramount, but as actual sovereign in possession of the three great Cymric kingdoms.<sup>1</sup>

What was the precise hereditary right of Llywelyn to the sovereignty is not very easy to determine. Edwin may have died in the interval, though I find no mention of the event in the *Bruts* ; but he had left a son Owen, who may, however, have been an infant at this time, though his son Meredydd was old enough to be subsequently set up as King of South Wales by Harold, the son of Earl Godwin. Be this as it may, besides the right derived from his wife Angharad, Llywelyn had an hereditary right of his own, derived from his mother Trawst, a daughter of Elisau, second son of Anarawd, and brother of Idwal Voel. His character for courage, moderation, and ability, must, from the first, have stood high among his countrymen, and, doubtless, his claim had obtained their unanimous support in the solemn council of the nation. It was said of him that he never made war for mere purposes of aggression, nor ever fought except in self-defence, or when his country was assailed by a foreign foe ; and his reign, except when interrupted, of necessity, by such enterprises, was one uninterrupted course of peace and prosperity to his people, who during these years grew greatly in wealth and numbers. This is ascribed by Carnhuanawc partly also to the fact that the Danes

<sup>1</sup> An attempt appears subsequently to have been made by Meurig, a son or nephew of Aeddan, to reconquer the territory ; but in the battle which was fought, Meurig was slain by Llywelyn with his own sword. (Hanes C., quoting *Brut y T.*, p. 431.)



and English being fully occupied in strife with each other, had no time for incursions into Cymric territory. But if so, this speaks also highly for the wisdom of Llywelyn, since it shews that he had the sagacity to hold himself aloof, nor permit himself to be handled as a tool by either enemy for the destruction of the other, and the weakening of his own power : a policy which, if always pursued by our sovereigns, might have preserved their freedom, independence, and national prosperity, for an indefinite period.

One only foreign invasion did he experience, which he repelled with honour ; and on that one occasion did he avail himself of English co-operation. Aulaff or Anlaff, a piratical Danish chieftain, landed in Gower with his "black host", to which was superadded a horde of Irish plunderers. These it is said that he drove with vast loss into Ireland, with the aid of a large force sent by Edmund Ironside, where Aulaff became subsequently king. But it appears that there was certainly more than one expedition into Wales under a leader named Aulaff,—one when Edmund I (or the Etheling) and Hywel Dda were reigning. There is a confusion, therefore, in the story, and the Saxon aid may have been requested by Howel the Good.

One other conflict of magnitude is to be noted during the reign of Llywelyn, which I need merely relate in the spirited language of Miss Jane Williams, whose word-painting in this instance can scarcely be greatly exaggerated, while it conveys a tolerably fair notion of the general untrustworthiness of her style of writing history. "In South Wales, A.D. 1020, an Irish adventurer, crafty, clever, and voluble, appeared at Dinefawr, calling himself by the name of Rhun, and pretending to be the son of the late King Meredydd. He was received by the subordinate kings of the province" (by how many "subordinate kings", by the way, does Miss Williams consider that each province had the happiness to be ruled ?), "and a large army was assembled at Abergwili to enforce his claim. On the approach of

Llewelyn ab Seisyllt with his forces, Rhun addressed his martial partisans with ostentatious bravery, confidently anticipating success, and arrogantly defying all opposition; but ere the furious shock of conflict came, he hid himself; and the chieftains of the south, after fighting desperately against their enraged sovereign, were defeated and dispersed. Llewelyn lost many men in the battle; but he overtook and slew the vaunting pretender, ravaged the country, and returned laden with the spoils, in melancholy triumph, to his favourite residence, Rhuddlan Castle." Which Castle, she omits to tell us, is said to have been originally built by him.

The narrative is given by Miss Williams substantially in the words of the *Chronicle of the Princes*, here unusually amplified (Ab Ithel's edition, as it stands in two of his copies, and also in the first of the two given in the *Myvr. Arch.*, p. 605, Gee's ed.), which seems to correspond, for the most part, to the text of Ab Ithel. Carnhuanawc has given only a condensed account, derived, as usual with him, from the Aberpergwm MS. None of these, be it observed, say a word of the "subordinate kings", all of whom seem evolved from "the men of the south" of the *Chronicle*, like Darwin's "man" from the aboriginal ape. Nor, again, is it stated, except in *Ann. Cambriae*, p. 23 ("occisus est Reyn"), that Rhun was actually slain, but only that "from that time forth he never appeared again." According to the *Brut Iewan Brechva*, Rhun was a natural son of Meredydd by an Irish woman. Llywelyn's life was prolonged but for a year or two after this event.

Miss Williams proceeds to tell us that "in 1023 King Llewelyn ab Seisyllt died by assassination, at the instigation, it is said, of Howel and Maredudd, the sons of Edwin ab Einion ab Owen ab Howel Dda, and by the treacherous aid of Madog Min, Bishop of Bangor. National reprobation prevented the authors of this heinous deed from profiting by it, and the throne of Gwynedd was immediately occupied by Iago ab Idwal (Vychan), the lineal descendant of Rhodri Mawr. The

throne of Deheubarth was seized upon with a strong hand by Rhydderch ab Iestyn, district King of Morganwg, and Lord of Gwentllwg. The kingdom of Powys appears to have fallen into a distracted state, and to have afforded shelter to the turbulent sons of Edwin."

There is little to object to in this statement, which is, on the whole, consistent with those of the several chronicles, one expression excepted, that of "district king", implying that the kings of Deheubarth held jurisdiction over those of Morganwg; an erroneous impression which has led the writer into many mistakes, underlying, as it were, and discolouring the whole stream of her history. Nothing can be clearer, from all the known facts, that Morganwg and also Essyllwg (which was afterwards the kingdom of Elystan Glodrydd) were wholly and entirely independent of the three great sovereignties, having the power to choose their own kings, hold their own national assemblies, and make their own laws.

The treachery of Madoc Min on this and on a second occasion were held in such detestation by his countrymen as to pass into a proverb, and become connected with a legendary tale. The *Chronicle of the Princes* tells us: "One year and one thousand and sixty was the year of Christ (1063, *Ann. Camb.*) when Gruffydd, son of Llewelyn, the head, and shield, and defender of the Britons, fell through the treachery of his own men. The man who has been hitherto invincible was now left in the glens of desolation, after taking immense spoils, and after gaining innumerable victories, and countless treasures of gold and silver, and jewels and purple vestures." This deed of treachery also is ascribed to Madoc Min. He betrayed (so runs the story) Gruffydd, the son of Llywelyn ab Seisyllt, for three hundred head of cattle, promised him by Harold, King of the Saxons. The deed was done; but Harold kept back the price of blood. Thereupon "Madoc went in a ship towards the town of Dublin in Ireland; but the ship sank without the loss of any life save that of Madoc Min, and so the venge-

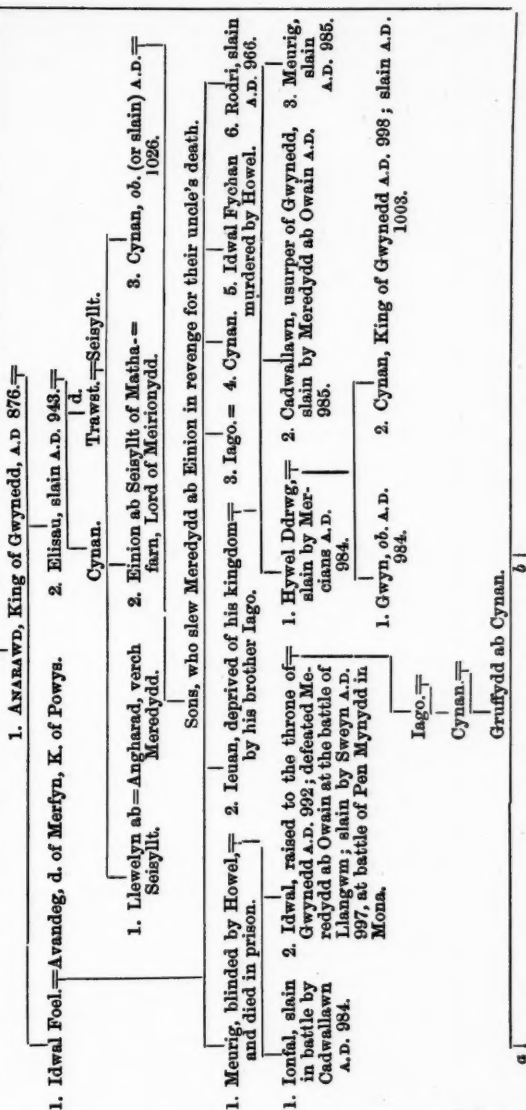
ance of God fell on him for his treachery; and so may it befall every traitor to his country and to his king all over the world! And so wily and deceitful was that Madoc that he was called 'Madoc the Fox'; and thus the most treacherous of all traitors was Madoc Min." (Iolo MSS. p. 611.)

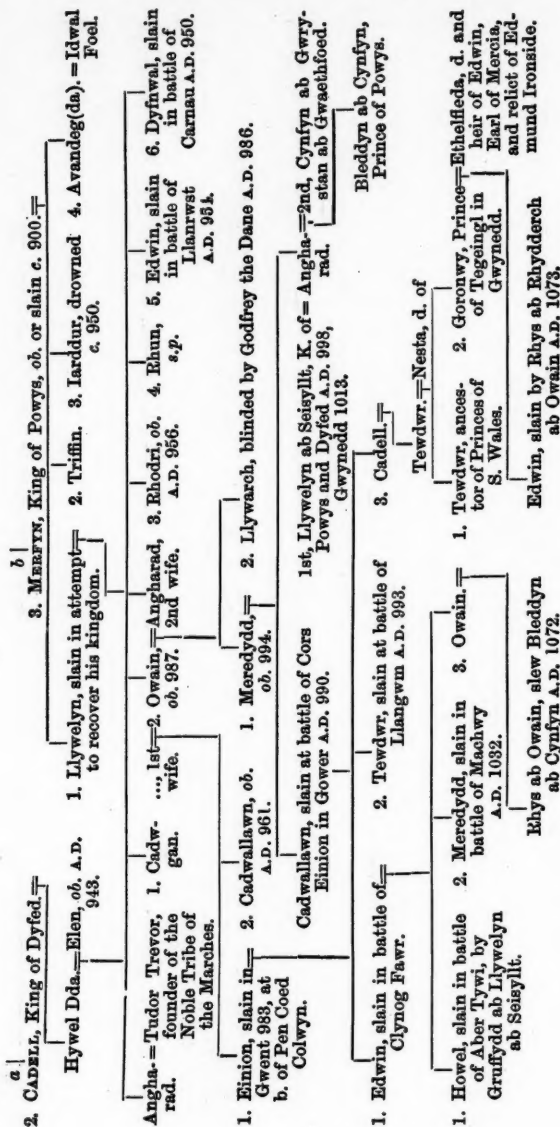
Miss Williams quotes *Ann. Camb.* and *Brut y Tywysogion* for her statement that "the murder of Cynan ab Seisyllt, Llewelyn's brother, in 1026, was added to the crimes which ambition prompted the sons of Edwin to commit." I find no authority whatever for the assertion. The *Annals* say simply that he died, and the *Brut* that he was killed, but not by whom. The statement which follows, that Meredydd ab Edwin was killed by the sons of Cynan, may lead to the *conjecture* that this was done to avenge their father's death; but it warrants no more than conjecture. Again, as to her statement that "Howel ab Edwin was constrained by them to seek for safety in exile", one copy (C) states that Griffith ab Llywelyn expelled Howel (p. 23, N.), defeated him afterwards at Pencadair, and on his sailing up the Towy with a force of Irish auxiliaries, defeated and slew him, and took his widow to be his wife.

It would carry us too far here to follow closely and in detail the fortunes of Gruffydd. Suffice it to say that his policy, equally bold with that of his father, was more aggressive, and less tempered with discretion. He was not averse to allying himself with Dane or Saxon, if momentarily to his advantage; and he loved to execute those border forays which inflict misery on the poor inhabitants while conducive to no solid or permanent result. Hence his attacks on Hereford and Worcester, the latter resulting in the death of the Bishop, who lost his life by putting himself at the head of such a force as he could hastily muster to save his church and his flock. In 1042 he was taken prisoner by stratagem, by Cynan ab Iago coming over from Ireland; but his subjects pursued the Irish to their ships, and recovered their prince. (Enwogion, s. v.)

## GENEALOGICAL TABLE.

RHODRI MAWR (Roderick the Great). A.D. 843; slain by ANGHARAD, dan. of Meurio ab Dyfnwal, King of Cardigan and Saxons in Môn, A.D. 873.





## HISTORICAL MSS. COMMISSION.

*(Continued from p. 68, Vol. xiii, 4th Series.)*

1646, Sept. 16. Draft order for payment of £50 to Quartermaster General Gravenor for bringing the good news of the rendition of Ragland Castle. (L. J., viii, 492.) *In extenso.*

1646, Sept. 24. Petition of the Deputy-Lieutenants of Cheshire, and the Governor and Committee of the City of Chester, to the House of Commons. Almost since January 1642-3 two armies have been maintained in this small county, and, on the treaty for the surrender of Chester, the petitioners, to save the city from plunder, engaged themselves to give all the officers and soldiers that served in the leaguer one month's pay, amounting to nearly £20,000, while the sequestrations will fall far short of what was expected. The horse, dragooners, and volunteer companies are all six months in arrear, and the county cannot satisfy them; and the soldiers are growing so impatient that the petitioners are in as great danger of being despoiled by their own necessitous soldiers, as they were before by the enemy; so many soldiers have been withdrawn that the malignants outnumber those that are left, and North Wales is in danger of being overrun by the enemy. The county is in want of a member to represent them in Parliament; is destitute of a godly and learned ministry, and the Courts of Justice are obstructed. The petitioners pray that considerable sums of money may be speedily ordered them out of the estates of delinquents, that a sufficient number of soldiers may be maintained at Chester for the safety of the city, and that the other grievances of the county may be redressed. (See C. J., iv, 674.)

1646, Oct. 27. Draft order for Rowland Hunt to be Sheriff of the county of Montgomery. (L. J., viii, 548.) *In extenso.*

1646, Nov. 3. Application for an order for Dr. Aylett to institute and induct Ludovicke Lewis to the parsonage of Llandyssil, Cardiganshire. (L. J., viii, 555.)

1646, Nov. 3. Ordinance to clear Sir Robert Eyton and others of their delinquency. (L. J., viii, 556.) *In extenso.*

1646, Nov. 6. Petition of Henry Earl of Worcester. Petitioner, upon the surrender of his house at Ragland, chose rather to cast himself upon the favour of the Parliament than to secure the liberty of his person, and disposal of his goods



upon the articles offered to him by Sir Thomas Fairfax. Petitioner's reason for fortifying his house was to defend himself from the unruliness of soldiers, and during all the time he was Governor there, he never levied any contribution from the country, or oppressed his neighbours with free quarters or other incumbrance. He did not embrace a commission sent to him from the King to be General of South Wales, intending nothing but his own preservation; and has for these three years kept his chamber, and most part of that time his bed, through his great infirmities, and never summoned a council of war, or issued any one order, save that for the delivery up of his Castle. Petitioner is now, by their Lordships' commands, brought up to London in great weakness, and remains a prisoner to death, as well as to their honours' pleasure. Prays for gracious consideration of his misery. (L. J., viii, 558.)

1646, Nov. 10. Draft order for Robert Powell, Esq., to be High Sheriff of Salop. (L. J., viii, 560.) *In extenso.*

1646, Nov. 14. Petition of Ann, wife of John Bodvell, respecting the guardianship of her children. (L. J., viii, 565.) *In extenso.*

1646, Nov. 16. Petition of Captain Samuel Tompson. Petitioner has faithfully served the King and Parliament for the space of two years, and has laid out much money for the maintenance of his troop, and has only received £44 3s. In May 1644 petitioner lent £360 to Sir Thomas Middleton for the advance of his forces into North Wales. Prays that this sum, with interest thereon, may be repaid to him out of the estates of the delinquents of the six counties in North Wales, who are now in composition for their estates in Goldsmiths' Hall. (L. J., viii, 567.)

1646, Nov. 16. Draft order for the payment of £20 to Mr. Heath and Mr. Curtis, who brought the news of the taking of Raglan Castle. (L. J., viii, 567.) *In extenso.*

1646, Nov. 17. Application for orders for Dr. Aylett to institute and induct Dr. John Ellis to the Rectory of Dolgelley. (L. J., viii, 568.)

1646, Nov. 17. Draft ordinance appointing Richard Symonds and others to preach itinerantly in South Wales. L. J., viii, 569.) *In extenso.*

1646, Dec. 2. Petition of Colonel Randall Mainwaring. He has endangered his life, impaired his health, and lost his estate in the public service. For four years last past he has been Major-General of the City Horse and Foot, and has only received £200; great arrears are also due to his son, who served as a captain at Abingdon until the forces there were disbanded, and

is now, with petitioner's other children, dependent upon him. Petitioner prays that he may be appointed to the searcher's place for Sandwich and the members thereof, now void. (L. J., viii, 586.)

1646, Dec. 16. Petition of Henry Earl of Worcester. Petitioner, who is near upon four score years of age, upon the treaty at Ragland, put himself wholly upon Parliament, and was brought up to the custody of the Usher of the Black Rod, where he has remained eight or nine weeks. On account of his age and infirmities he cannot walk in his chamber, or to his bed, without help, and has no means of his own to defray his necessary charge, and pay his great fees. He prays their Lordships that, inasmuch as his life cannot continue many days, they will be pleased to order that he may be freed of that charge, and that he may die out of restraint, and not in the nature of a prisoner, and may forthwith have such allowance for his maintenance as they in their wisdom shall think fit. (L. J., viii, 613.) This petition was ordered to be sent to the House of Commons, that in regard of his sickness and want he might have some means allowed him out of his own estate. On the 18th, the House was informed of the Earl's death, and application was made for the means to bury him. The petition is noted: "Read 16 Dec. 1646; nothing done. Dead. 18 Dec. 1646."

1646-7, Jan. 4. Petition of Maurice Evans of the parish of Gannus [Gwnnws], in the county of Cardigan. In 1645 petitioner was forcibly thrust out of possession of a house called Pully Preeth and other tenements by Jenkin Llewellyn, assisted by horse and foot of the King's soldiers. Llewellyn still continues in possession of the premises, and cannot be made to give them up, because there is no Justice of the Peace in the county, as all are disabled by their delinquency. Petitioner prays that the High Sheriff and Coroner of the county may be ordered to re-settle him in possession of his property. (L. J., viii, 643.)

Annexed: 1. Affidavit in support of proceeding. 2. Statement by the Earl of Pembroke and Montgomery, that he has appointed two fit persons to put Evans in possession of his property. 9 Jan. Endorsed: Read. Nothing done.

1646-7, Jan. 9. Draft order for Thomas Marbury, of Marbury, in the county of Chester, to be one of the Deputy-Lieutenants of the county. (C. J., v, 47.) *In extenso*.

1646-7, Jan. 13. Petition of Sir John Brydges. In consequence of his service at the taking of Hereford he was to have had the power of freeing two others from their delinquency, he himself having been already freed by the Committee of Gloucester; but,

through the malice of enemies, the Committee for Hereford have sequestered him for acts done before his pardon. He has applied to the Committee for sequestrations, who have stayed proceedings against him, but as he is going to serve in Ireland, leaving his wife and family in England, he prays to be secured from his enemies by an ordinance of Parliament.

Jan. 13. Draft ordinance for taking off the sequestration of the estate of Sir John Brydges. (L. J., viii, 670.)

1646-7, Jan. 13. Petition of Colonel Robert Kyrle (or Kyrne), Governor of the town and Castle of Monmouth. In June 1644, finding himself to have been misled, petitioner deserted His Majesty's service, and joined that of the Parliament, and in January 1645-6 he was appointed Governor of Monmouth, and raised a regiment of foot, and troop of horse at his own expense, besides other services to Parliament; yet the Committee for Hereford have sequestered all his estate in that county that has come to him from his father, who always adhered to Parliament. He prays that the sequestration may be taken off, and the Committee ordered to restore anything already taken away. (L. J., viii, 670.)

1646-7, Jan. 23. Petition of the well-affected gentry and inhabitants of the county of Cardigan. They pray that a free school may be established in the town of Cardigan annexed to Jesus College, Oxford, and £100 per annum be allowed thereto out of the impropriations sequestered from delinquents in the county. (L. J., viii, 684.)

Annexed: 1. Another petition of same. 2. Another petition. 3. Schedule of proposed constitution and endowment of school. 4. Copy of preceding. 5. Another copy. 6. Reasons showing the necessity of a free school to be erected in the town of Cardigan, and the benefit that may consequently ensue to the inhabitants of that county, presented to the Committee of Lords by Thomas Wogan, Esq., a member of the Honourable House of Commons serving for that town. There is no free school within forty miles, and the inhabitants are so poor that they are not able to have their children educated in any other county. None save the best sort of gentry can read or speak the English tongue, so that preaching does not at all edify them, they being not capable of understanding for want of breeding. In the whole four score parish churches, there are not one dozen ministers who can speak in their language. Mr. Wogan then gives many reasons why the town of Cardigan is the best place in the county for a free school. 7. Extracts from the *Liber Regis*, temp. Henry VIII, showing the value of the first fruits and tithes of livings appropriated to the Canons and Pre-

centor of St. David's Cathedral, out of which it is proposed to endow the school. 8. Draft ordinance for erecting a free school in the town of Cardigan. (L. J., ix, 97.)

1646-7, Feb. 13. Petition of Captain John Poyer, Governor of the town, garrison, and castle of Pembroke. Petitioner has borrowed large sums of money on the security of his friends for repairing and fortifying the town and Castle of Pembroke, where he has been Governor for upwards of four years, and for ammunition, clothes, victuals, and pay for the garrison. Prays that he may be repaid the money so expended by him for the necessary occasions of the Commonwealth, together with his arrears, out of the composition of certain delinquents. (L. J., ix, 14.)

1646-7, Feb. 22. Draft order respecting the circuits in North and South Wales. (L. J., ix, 31.) *In extenso.*

1646-7, March 3. Order respecting the payment of the remainder of the £12,000 for the Cheshire Forces. (L. J., ix, 55.) *In extenso.*

1646-7, March 3. Application for orders for Dr. Heath to institute and induct Mr. David Lloyd to the Vicarage of Penbryn, and Mr. Morrice Evans to the Rectory of Ciliau Aêron, both in the county of Cardigan. (L. J., ix, 56.)

1646-7, March 6. Petition of Edmund Goodere (farmer of the mines royal in the county of Cardigan) and of the miners, smelters, refiners, and other workmen, with hundreds depending on their labours. His Majesty by letters patent authorised a mint to be erected in the Castle of Aberystwith for the coinage of such silver only as should be raised out of the mines royal in the Principality of Wales, which castle and the houses erected for the mint are so destroyed by the late war, that the work cannot be continued there without great charge and danger. Petitioners pray that the mint may be continued at a place called the smelting mills, near the refining-house, until the castle shall be refitted; and that the officers of the Tower may be ordered to furnish the mint with stamps and workmen, as they are warranted in doing by the patent, and as they have formerly done. (L. J., ix, 68.)

1646-7, March 16. Draft ordinance concerning the County Palatine of Chester. (C. J., v, 113.) *In extenso.*

1646-7, March 20. Draft ordinance appointing judges for Wales. (L. J., ix, 91.) *In extenso.*

1646-7, March 24. Petition of Edward Rumsey of Crickhowell, Brecon. Petitioner has sustained divers wrongs and injuries in his person and estate by the means of the Earl of Worcester and his son, Lord Herbert, by whose command his

house was battered and plundered by Colonel Morgan, a Popish commander; petitioner was afterwards by his command arrested, imprisoned, and tried for his life, being charged with treason for his service to the Parliament. Having with great difficulty escaped this danger, the Earl commanded his forces again to apprehend petitioner, and he was in consequence obliged to leave his habitation (which the Popish forces twice attempted to burn with wildfire) and live abroad, to his great expense, and the utter neglect of his estate, the benefit whereof the Earl of Worcester has for divers years enjoyed under pretence of wardship and other means. Prays that the matter may be referred to the Committee of Brecon, or some other Committee of South Wales, to certify the truth of his statements, in order that he may receive some satisfaction for his losses. (L. J., ix, 99.)

Annexed: Certificate of petitioner's service to the Parliament, and of his great losses.

1647, April 2. Draft ordinance to clear Dr. John Williams, late Archbishop of York, of his delinquency. (L. J., ix, 120.)

1647, April 9. Draft order for Colonel Jones to be Governor of Dublin. (L. J., ix, 133.) *In extenso.*

1647, April 13. Application for an order for Dr. Aylett to institute and induct Randall Davies to the Vicarage of Meifod, Montgomery. (L. J., ix, 134.)

1647, April 15. Application for an order for Dr. Aylett to institute and induct David James to the Rectory of Kilrhedin, Pembrokeshire.

1647, April 23. Petition of Richard Willis. An ordinance has passed the House of Commons authorising the Commissioners of the Great Seal to pass a grant of the offices of Prothonotary, and Clerk of the Crown for the counties of Carmarthen, Pembroke, and Cardigan, etc., to Robert Coytmore, these offices petitioner claims under letters patent granted to his father in the third year of His Majesty's reign. Prays that his right may be taken into consideration, and directions given to stay the passing of the grant. (L. J., ix, 150.)

Annexed: 1. Copy of preceding. 2. Copy of the ordinance granting the offices to Robert Coytmore, 24 March 1646-7. 3. Another petition of same that the matter may be examined into and determined. 4. Petition of Robert Coytmore that a day may be appointed for hearing the matter.

1647, April 23. Order upon Willis' petition for the Commissioners of the Great Seal to stay the passing of the grant. (L. J., ix, 150.)

1647 [April]. Petition of the aldermen, merchants, and citizens of the city of Chester. The River Dee is choked up,

and made unnavigable by reason of the stone causey erected near the city to serve the Dee Mills, which for many years has occasioned a great decay of trading, and frequent inundations on the Welsh side. The Commissioners of Sewers for those parts during King James's reign resolved that the causey should be demolished, but this resolution took no effect in regard of the power of those whose private interest in the mills was concerned. Petitioners pray that they may have an ordinance for taking down the causey and mills, and that the material may be used for erecting tide mills for the service of the city.

1647, May 1. The names of the commanders and officers of the regiments to be sent out of North Wales for the service of Ireland. (L. J., ix, 168.) *In extenso*.

1647, May 1. The humble remonstrance and petition of William Morgan to the House of Commons, freely elected and returned Knight of the Shire for the county of Brecon. He relates his efforts in opposing the Commission of Array in the county; that he was subsequently made prisoner and carried to Ragland Castle, and thence to Oxford, and he was forced to sit in the Parliament there; but as soon as he was able he returned on bail to his own county, and declared for the Parliament. He prays that a difference may be made between himself, and others who joined the King, and that he may be permitted to take his seat in the House.

1647, May 5. Petition of Colonel Randall Mainwaring. He has been arrested, notwithstanding the order of the House for his protection. He prays that he may be set at liberty, as he is ready to give every security for payment to his creditors, or, at least, that he may have leave to go abroad with his keeper. (L. J., ix, 176.)

1647, May 7. Letter from Edward Allenn at Montgomery Castle to Edward Lord Herbert of Chirbury, and Castle Island, in Queen Street. Last Tuesday night, upwards of three score soldiers marched from Pool in a hostile manner and surrounded Sutton House, and, after about two hours' resistance, broke open the doors, and took Mr. Griffith to Montgomery town, where they brought other gentlemen prisoners; the soldiers then fired upon the Castle, but the writer would not permit his men to reply, for fear of making the soldiers use their prisoners worse, for whose release they demand £300. The writer then tried to obtain men from the town to strengthen his garrison, but none would come unless they were paid. Captain Lloyd, however, procured twenty of his old soldiers, and Mrs. Herbert required her servants to come from Stallow, with which help he doubts not to hold the castle, notwithstanding the threats of

such desperate men as these soldiers are. The writer has not so much as meat to give his auxiliaries for their service, and desires speedy directions for his conduct. (L. J., ix, 186.)

1647, May 11. Application for orders for Dr. Aylett to institute and induct Henry Turner to the Rectory of Wing, Rutland, and Rice Price to the Vicarage of Llanllwchaiarn, Montgomery. (L. J., ix, 183.)

1647, May 11. Petition of Thomas Foote and John Kendrick, Aldermen of London. Pray that John Richards may be ordered to forbear a suit which he has commenced against them as Sheriffs of London, for not arresting Colonel Randall Manwaring. (L. J., ix, 185.) *In extenso.*

1647, June 5. Petition of Richard Wigmore. Having been formerly captain of a trained band in Herefordshire, by inducements and threats he accepted a commission from the King, and within three months after, in March 1642-3, he was taken prisoner by Sir William Waller, who discharged him on his taking oath not to attempt anything against the Parliament. This he has faithfully kept, and has besides saved the lives and protected the estates of many of the friends of Parliament, and done other good offices for the Parliament party, as is certified by the Earl of Essex, and others. He has lost an office at Ludlow, the chief support of himself and his family, and has but £107 per annum for maintenance, and that heavily charged. He hopes that he is a fit object of pity, as he came in so early, and has borne taxes and free quarters to a great value, and, therefore, prays to be discharged from his sequestration. Noted, "Read. Nothing done therein."

Annexed: 1. Certificate of the Committee for Sequestrations in support of preceding. 2. Order of the same Committee for petitioner's proofs to be annexed to his petition. 12 May 1647.

1647, June 10. Application for an order for Dr. Aylett to institute and induct Humfry Lloyd to the Vicarage of Ruabon, in the county of Denbigh. (L. J., ix, 252.)

1647 [June 22]. Message to the Commons, to remind them of the ordinance long since sent down concerning a new seal to be made for the counties of Pembroke, etc. (See C. J., v, 220.)

1647 [July 8]. Petition of Richard Willis; that his cause against Robert Coytmore may, for the convenience of counsel, be put off until Thursday next. (See L. J., ix, 319.)

1647, July 16. Copy of an order for the further hearing of the cause between Richard Willis and Robert Coytmore, touching the Prothonotary's place in South Wales. (L. J., ix, 334.)

1647, July 23. Petition of David Ouchterlong. Walter



Bowen duly presented, and afterwards instituted and inducted, by order of the House, to the Rectory of Llandyssil, Cardiganshire, has been disturbed by Thomas Evans and John Lloyd, who took the Church Bible from him, and sent about twenty armed men to levy the tithes of the Rectory, and wounded and assaulted Bowen's agents, trying to force the tithes from them. Petitioner prays that those who disturb and oppose Bowen may be sent for to answer for their contempt.

Annexed: 1. Affidavit of David Rees in support of preceding, 15 July. 2. Affidavit of Thomas Phillips, 2 June. (L. J., ix, 347.) *In extenso*.

1647, July 31. Petition of Dr. Godfrey Goodman, late Bishop of Gloucester. At the beginning of the late wars, petitioner's whole estate was sequestered, and, as he had nothing to live upon in London, he was obliged to retire into North Wales, where he lived in a most obscure and mean manner upon the profits of a tenement worth £30 a year, which he had formerly conveyed to pious uses, but was obliged to resume for his own support; and now the Committee for the county of Carnarvon intend to sequester this small remains of his estate, which will expose him to absolute beggary. He prays the House to consider his case, as he is above sixty years of age, very sickly and infirm, to allow him some competent maintenance for the short remainder of his life, and to free his tenement from sequestration. (L. J., ix, 362.)

1647, Aug. 20. Petition of Captain Thomas Evans. John Williams, lawful incumbent of Llandyssil, Cardiganshire, farmed the profits of the Rectory to petitioner and others, but in May last Walter Bowen was presented to the Rectory, and procured an order from the House for his institution and induction thereto, as if it had been vacant by Williams's death, though he is alive; under colour of which Bowen's agents have attempted to collect the tithes, and on a petition of David Ouchterlong have procured an order for the attachment of petitioner, as a contemner of their Lordships' orders, when he knew not of them, and that Bowen, if he have any claim to the living, may try the same by ordinary course of law. Petitioner, who is one of the Committee for the county of Cardigan and for the counties of Pembroke and Carmarthen, and is required speedily in the county, prays to be discharged from the attachment. (L. J., ix, 388.)

Annexed: 1. Affidavit of Richard Robert, that John Williams, reputed parson of Llandyssil, was alive and well on the 25th of June last. 2nd Aug. 1647.

1647, Oct. 2. Answer of Major-General Langharne to an

order of the House upon the petition of Frances Thomas, widow. On the 18th of June, the House ordered him to restore a certain quantity of lead to Mrs. Thomas, or to show cause to the contrary within twenty days; in answer to which he says that in 1645, when he had cleared the county of Pembroke, and was in some condition to march into the counties of Carmarthen and Cardigan, then wholly for the King, he found the lead close to the garrison of Aberystwith, and, fearing lest it should fall into the hands of the enemy, he caused it to be shipped thence by sea, and that it was afterwards employed for the use of the State in the service under his command, as his accounts will show. (See L. J., ix, 279.)

1647, Oct. 6. Application for an order for Dr. Aylett to institute and induct Timothy Woodroffe to the Rectory of Wenvoe, Glamorganshire. (L. J., ix, 471.)

1647, Oct. 7. Application for an order for Dr. Aylett to institute and induct Henry Miles to the Rectory of Dinas, Pembrokeshire. (L. J., ix, 474.)

1647, Oct. 12. Petition of Henry Pugh to the Earl of Manchester, Speaker of the House of Lords. Petitioner holds a presentation from his Lordship to the Rectory of Llanystymdwy, in the county of Carnarvon, but is most rudely debarred from possession by a prevailing gentleman and his servants in that parish. He prays for an order for removal of the obstructions which at present detain him from his rights.

Annexed: Affidavit of Henry Pugh, that when he went to take possession of the Rectory and Parish Church he was hindered and obstructed by Morrice Owen and others, servants of Wm. Lloyd. 7 Oct. (L. J., ix, 477.)

1647, Oct. 23. Application for an order for Maurice Owen to be instituted and inducted to the Rectory of Llanystymdwy in the county of Carnarvon.

Annexed: Certificate from the Assembly of Divines that Owen has been approved for the Cure. 19 Oct.

1647, Nov. 2. Order for George Powell to be Comptroller of the Customs at Milford. (L. J., ix, 508.) *In extenso.*

1647, Nov. 3. Petition of John Edisbury. Prays to be admitted to the Office of Prothonotary and Clerk of the Crown of the counties of Denbigh and Montgomery, to which he is entitled in reversion under letters patent, upon the determination of the interest of Kenrick Eyton and Richard Lloyd, one a delinquent who has compounded under the articles for the surrender of Denbigh, and the other a person excluded by name from pardon in the propositions offered to the King, and whose interests are determined by ordinance of 25 Dec. 1643. (L. J., ix, 510.)

1647, Dec. 24. Draft orders to appoint additional Commissioners in Pembroke and Gloucestershire. (L. J., ix, 610.)  
*In extenso.*

[1647.] Petition of the inhabitants of the counties of Cardigan and Pembroke, to the House of Commons. The bridge over the River Tivey [Teivi], which was built about eight years ago, at a cost of £1,500, has been lately broken down by the enemy, to the great hindrance of trade between the two counties; it may now be repaired for £500, but, if left for three months longer, will cost more than both counties can advance. Pray that £500 may be speedily levied out of delinquents' estates in the county for that purpose.

Statement respecting John Jones of Nantons [Nanteos] in the county of Cardigan, a barrister, who published a book in defence of the King's actions, and himself served against the Parliament; quarrelling with the Governor of Aberystwith Castle, he complained to Prince Rupert, and was by him clapped in prison for abusing the Governor, but he got loose and obtained a command under his cousin, Colonel Lewes, and joined with the countrymen to besiege the Governor of Aberystwith. He has procured many of his kinsmen to be of the Committee of the county, and so hopes to compound secretly, that no complaint may be made against him.

Application for the appointment of Roger Lorte, John Eliot, and others as Committees in the county of Pembroke, for assessing part of the £60,000 on the inhabitants of the county.

1641, April 3. Bond for £12,000 from Edward Lord Herbert, son and heir of Henry Earl of Worcester, to the King:

"I, Edward Lord Herbert, sonne and heire of Henry, now Earl of Worcester, doe hereby oblige myselfe, my executors, administrators, or assignes, upon the forfeiture and penaltie of twentie fower thowsand pownds sterling unto His Most Excellent Ma'tie, his heys and successors, or to any whom his Ma'tie shall appoint, in case that within two yeares now to come I doe not paye or cause to be payed vnto his Ma'tie or whom he shall appoint, the full somme of twelve thowsand pownds, provided that his most sacred Ma'tie be gratically pleased to affoord me the favour for which I am now a most humble suitor to him, and that his Ma'tie be likewise pleased to returne vnto me two propositions and obligations which he hath of mine, and herein I most humbly submitt to his Ma'tie's wisdome and goodnesse, and doe againe by these tye myselfe, my heyres, executors, administrators, and assignes, to the true and faythfull payment of the above sayed twelve thowsand pownds, in and vnder the above mentioned penaltie and forfei-

ture, in wittnesse whereof I hereto put my hand and seale, this third of Aprill 1641. Provided further, that if I dye within these two next ensueing yeares that then this obligation to be voyde, otherwise to stand in full vertue and force to the true intent and purpose before mentioned.

(Endorsed) "35.

"E. H., obligation.

"Received the 11 of Aprill. (Seal.)

"1641."

The endorsement is in the King's handwriting.

1647-8, Jan. 7. Petition of Colonel Thomas Morgan, Governor of Gloucester; on the surrender of Hartlebury Castle the petitioner pledged himself to Colonel Samuel Sandys of Omberly, to endeavour to the best of his power that the sequestration of Sandy's estate might be taken off without fine or composition; on the faith of this promise Colonel Sandys effected the surrender of the castle. Petitioner prays the House to be tender of his honour, and to grant performance of his promise. (C. J., v, 422.)

Annexed: 1, Certificate from Colonel Morgan of his promise to Colonel Sandys. 4 Dec. 1647. 2, duplicate of preceding. 24 Dec. 1647.

1647-8, Jan. 10. Draft order for a general collection for relief of the town of Bridgnorth. (L. J., ix, 657.) *In extenso.*

1647-8, Jan. 19. Draft orders for appointment of Sheriffs in the counties of Brecon, Carnarvon, etc. (L. J., ix, 669.) *In extenso.*

1647-8, Jan. 21. Draft order for Robert Martin to be Sheriff of the County of Radnor. (L. J., ix, 672.) *In extenso.*

1647-8, Jan. 29. Draft resolutions to discharge Mr. John Glynne<sup>1</sup> from being Recorder of London, to recommend Mr. William Steele in his place, and to discharge Mr. Glyn from being Steward of Westminster. (C. J., v, 450.)

1647-8, Feb. 3. Report of Mr. Lisle's speech at the conference about Mr. Glynne, the Recorder of London, charged with being accessory to the violence offered to the Parliament in July last. (L. J., x, 16.) *In extenso.*

1647-8, Feb. 3. Draft ordinance to clear Samuel Sandys of his delinquency. (L. J., x, 20.) *In extenso.*

1647-8, Feb. 15. Petition of Thomas Morgan, of [St.] Maughan, in the county of Monmouth, and others. By lease made to them by Sir John Wyntor, before these wars, and since allowed by the Committee for sequestrations, the petitioners hold certain iron mills, forges, and furnaces in Dean Forest with

<sup>1</sup> Third son of Sir William Glynne of Glynllivon in Caernarvonshire. (See Williams's *Biographical Dict. of Eminent Welshmen.*)

other property, in trust for payment of Sir John Wyntor's debts, and for portions and maintenance for his lady and children; but Parliament having by ordinance granted to Colonel Edward Massey all the iron mills, forges, and furnaces in Dean Forest either belonging to the King or Sir John Wintor, Colonel Massey has seized the mills, etc., above mentioned, to the ruin of Sir John Wyntor's lady and children, and the undoing of his creditors. Petitioners pray that they may be allowed to hold the mills, etc., without interruption. (L. J., x, 43.)

Annexed: 1, copy of order of the Committee for sequestrations, allowing and confirming the lease to the trustees, 28 Jan. 1647-8.

1647-8, Feb. 18th. Draft order to make two alterations in the names of the Commissioners for Assessments in county of Brecknock. (L. J., x, 63.) *In extenso*.

1647-8, Feb. 18. Draft order appointing Commissioners to disband the forces in South Wales. (L. J., x, 63.) *In extenso*.

1647-8, March 3. Draft ordinance for declaring Colonel Payer and his adherents traitors and rebels, if within twelve hours after notice hereof they shall not surrender Pembroke Castle. (L. J., x, 89.) *In extenso*.

1647-8, March 5. Letter from Colonel Thomas Rainborowe to the Earl of Manchester, Speaker of the House of Peers: I have this morning received command from the committee at Derby house, to send a ship to Milford Haven in case the Governor (of Pembroke Castle) do not surrender within twelve hours; a ship is ready accordingly, and a fit person shall be appointed to it.

1647-8, March 6. Draft ordinance appointing an Attorney-General for the counties of Chester and Flint, etc. (L. J., x, 98.) *In extenso*.

1647-8, March 6. Draft order appointing Thomas Lloyd, Sheriff of the county of Cardigan. (L. J., x, 99.) *In extenso*.

1647-8, March 8. Draft order for felling timber in Frith Wood for repair of Chepstow Bridge. (L. J., x, 101.) *In extenso*.

1647-8, March 14. Draft ordinance to confirm the election of the Mayor and Sheriffs of Chester. (L. J., x, 114.) *In extenso*.

1647-8, March 17. Draft order adding Sir Anthony Irby, to the Committee of Westminster College in the place of John Glynne, Esq. (L. J., x, 118.) *In extenso*.

1648. [April 4.] Petition of David ap David and other poor inhabitants of Wrexham Regis, in the county of Denbigh. On the 6th of May, 1643, about eleven o'clock in the forenoon, a fire occurred in the town, so fierce, owing to the dryness of the

season, that in two hours one hundred and forty-three dwelling houses, and most of the goods in them, were reduced to ashes, besides kilns, barns, stables, and other buildings, about a fourth of the town, the estimated value being above £4,000: most of the houses have not yet been rebuilt owing to the poverty of the inhabitants; the petitioners pray the House to grant them orders and briefs for a general collection for their relief in London and Westminster, in the county of Middlesex, and also in Wales and the counties adjoining thereto. (L. J., x, 178.)

1648, April 17. Ordinance adding Major Robert Harley to the Committee for Assessments in Hereford. (L. J., x, 206.)  
*In extenso.*

### CINERARY URNS FOUND AT CAE MICK- NEY, ANGLESEY.

WHEN we consider the great extent of waste land in Anglesey which of late years has been brought under cultivation, and the numerous gorse fields and other wild enclosures which the draining tool and plough have penetrated and broken up, it is surprising that so few sepulchral urns have been brought to light.<sup>1</sup>

That they exist where least thought of, and underlie the surface of our fields in larger numbers than we are apt to suppose, the following incident may serve to illustrate. During my boyhood there was a field not far from Dinam attached to a small farm called Cae Mickney,<sup>2</sup> overgrown with fern and stunted gorse—the haunt of cuckoos in spring, and of game and wild birds in winter. About fifty-five years ago this field was cleared and cultivated, and now, with the exception of a low and scarcely perceptible bank which runs through it, in the direction of the Cromlech at Bodowyr, distant about seven hundred yards, it has the even surface and ordinary appearance of an arable

<sup>1</sup> One urn only do I remember to have heard of as discovered in this neighbourhood. It was dug out of a railway-cutting by some navvies and taken to the nearest farmhouse, where it was allowed to perish in the open air. On the surface of the ground there was no barrow or other indication of its presence.

<sup>2</sup> So written by Mr. Rowlands in his *Antiquitates Parochiales*.

field. The bank here mentioned has a slight depression on one side, and resembles so nearly the reduced rampart of a camp with its partly filled up trench, that I have often endeavoured to discover its extent and origin, but without success. The tenant believes it to have been an old road, because it contains more stones and gravel than other parts of the ground, and for the reason that passing under the floor of his house, where a spindle-whorl of stone was lately found, it is traceable across the next field. It may be nothing more than the foundation of a broad old fashioned sod-built fence, many of which in Anglesey would leave such appearances if imperfectly scattered. Early in the spring of the present year this bank was cut across by a labourer whilst making a new hedge, and about twelve feet south-west of the intersection two urns appeared, protruding their broken edges out of the sides of the newly-formed ditch. This circumstance, and the fact that the land belongs to my nephew, led to a search, the result being that within a circle, measuring about thirty-six feet in diameter, we met with thirty-two interments, consisting principally of broken urns in a crumbling state of decay, the contents of which were incinerated bones with an unctuous black mould and ashes slightly intermixed with the soil in which the vessels were buried. In seven instances the interments appeared to consist of calcined bones and charcoal, put into the ground without the usual protection of urns. If otherwise, the urns had so perished and become blended with their contents as to be undistinguishable. Five of the urns were in a condition too fragmentary and pulverized to convey an idea of their size and forms. Nine were in pieces slightly larger than the preceding, but when collected and looked over they were found to be deficient in numbers, and represented only parts of urns, damp and decay having disposed of the missing portions. The other thirteen were considerably more perfect, although far from entire. Their bottoms in



almost every instance had disappeared, and in many cases a whole side was deficient, usually the darkest and least baked. I may here observe, that all of the vessels were darker and further advanced in decay on one side than the other, owing seemingly to imperfect firing. One eminent archæologist has suggested that the ancient mode of baking this rude ware may have been "to fill the urn with hot ashes and heap the glowing embers around it", a method by which the heat would have been evenly distributed and the baking uniform throughout. Another distinguished antiquary of great experience is of opinion that "they have not been baked in a kiln but at an open fire." This last process best agrees with the appearance of the Cae Mickney urns, which, in every instance, were insufficiently baked on one side and also at the bottom. Drawings of the best preserved have been selected to accompany these remarks. The antiquity of the vessels, and the trying circumstance of their position, lodged, as I found them, within a distance varying from six to ten inches of the field's surface, may well account for their decay. Those nearest to the sward were probably crushed by the plough. The basements of the inverted vessels and the tops of those uprightly interred had either been knocked off or had fallen away, leaving entrances for the roots of plants, which, spreading and thriving within the urns, sent their fibres through their decaying sides and hastened their disruption. We met with no cistvaen or grave containing unburnt remains, consequently the more highly ornamented class of vessels, such as food vases and drinking cups, did not fall to our lot.

The urns are small, plain in ornament, and in other respects not remarkable as British specimens; but it is curious they should have been discovered where there is no vestige of mound or cairn, not the slightest elevation or depression in the field's surface to rouse curiosity or to guide the explorer in his search, with the exception of the old bank mentioned above, which,

I think, must have run up to a once existing barrow and formed its north-eastern boundary, an idea in some degree supported by the fact that the bank is perceptibly higher at this point than anywhere else. The ground is not stony and hard ; on the contrary, it consists of a brown loam four or five inches deep, resting on a stiff and tenacious substratum, in which the urns were imbedded. The purity and freshness of this upper soil is perplexing, because where a carnedd has stood we naturally think we may find a residue of stones; and on a spot once occupied by a mound, vestiges of it might be looked for in a broken or uneven surface, or in a pan of earth rendered hard and unproductive by time and pressure. None of these indications were visible here. We therefore have to suppose, either that the stones of a carnedd have been very carefully removed from the place by preceding tenants, or, that the firmness of the subsoil, with a few stones built up to the sides of the urns, a smallish slab placed above, and another set beneath each specimen, were regarded by their depositors as sufficient protections. If further secured by a covering of stones or earth, as I think they must have been, the mound, of whatever kind, has been so effaced that I know not whether during my excavations I touched its centre, and cannot state on which side of it I have been at work, although conjecturing that my success has been on its southern or south-western border. That such monuments may be obliterated we have evidence in the names of farms and places in Anglesey, such as Carn, Cruglas, Carnedd, Cromlech, Gaerwen, etc., plainly derived from the antiquities which once stood on or near to them, and which in several instances have been so thoroughly destroyed as to leave no vestige and in some cases barely a tradition.

The farm of Bodowyr hems in Cae Mickney on two sides, regarding the antiquities on which, Mr. Rowlands, in his *Mona Antiqua*, thus writes, "There is a pretty cromlech standing at the top of a hillock at Bodowyr.

There is also, on a rising part of ground there, the highway leading through it, the remains of a small cirque. And on another part of the ground there appear the marks of a *carnedd*, the stones of which in times past have been disposed into walls and buildings." For a time it seemed doubtful to me whether the *carnedd* mentioned here had not stood on Cae Mickney, and its position by mistake assigned to Bodowyr, but inquiry has made me think that the site of the Bodowyr *carnedd* is still preceptible on the first field north of the *cromlech*, where, on a brow rising with a gentle swell, there is a circular spot a little elevated, which is, up to this day, the dread of ploughmen, owing to its stony and resisting nature. My informant told me that cart-loads of stones had been removed thence by himself and other tenants, but the ground is still obstructive, and beneath its surface there is a bed of stones. The situation is suitable for a *carnedd* and corresponds with that of the *cromlech*, from which it is separated by a gradual decline and ascent. Should anyone feel interested in the inquiry he has only to look at his compass when near to the *cromlech*, and thence measure by step about 250 yards in a direction north-west by north and he will find himself at the place specified; Mr. Jones, the tenant, would however be his surest guide. The diameter of the stony circle is from thirty to forty feet. A foundation of some kind lies concealed here, the nature of which a morning's digging might determine and lead to further discoveries.<sup>1</sup>

The "small cirque" here mentioned has been so long ago destroyed that I have no recollection of its existence, and can only guess at its position, guided by Mr. Rowlands' remarks. About a hundred yards from the *cromlech*, in a line west-south-west, we meet with a peculiar bend in the south-western fence of the public road, which, with another not so distinctly marked, some forty or sixty yards further towards the north-

<sup>1</sup> The property belongs to the Right Hon. Lord Boston.

west, may indicate the positions of the two opposite sides of the cirque at this point if the present highway ever led through it. Between these dents, or bends, the hedge is faced with stones, possibly taken out of the walls of the cirque, in which respect it differs from the fence generally, which is built of sods. The probability, however, is that the position of the cirque was on the field side of this fence, where the ground ascends gradually for about 130 yards towards the south-west, and terminates in a low and natural mound or hill commanding an extensive view. Struck by the similarity of this ground to that described by Mr. Rowlands, where he tells us that the cirque stood "on a rising part of ground there"—meaning, I suppose, near to the cromlech—I called on Mr. Lewis of Bodrida, the present holder of the field, to inquire whether he had met with any stonework or other remains upon it. His answer was that twenty-eight years ago, whilst endeavouring to reduce the prominence of the high ground there, in order to run a fence more easily over the top of it, his workmen came upon a trench 9 feet wide by about 4 feet deep, filled with stones of a size suitable for building, which had evidently been disposed of in this manner, and thrown in from an old work, with the two-fold object of clearing the ground and of levelling up the trench. Large quantities of these he removed, replacing them with earth. The position of the trench was pointed out to me, which takes an elliptical course around the hill, and encompasses a space measuring about 174 feet by 134 feet, its longest diameter being from north-east to south-west. At the south-western end, the trench was missed by the workmen for a short distance. Within the enclosure, cart-loads of cockleshells were found. This fortified abode, of whatever kind, is so similar in outline and situation to the "small cirque" drawn and described by Mr. Rowlands in his *Mona Antiqua*,<sup>1</sup> that I think they may be identical, the only differing circumstance being that the highway

<sup>1</sup> See engraving, *Mona Antiqua*, p. 93.

does not now lead through it.<sup>1</sup> It is well known that alterations were made in these roads after Mr. Rowlands' day, but to what extent I cannot say with certainty. The distance of this higher ground from the cromlech is about 230 yards.

The following is a list of the remaining urn fragments:—

No. 1 is  $10\frac{1}{2}$  inches high; diameter of its orifice is  $7\frac{3}{4}$  inches. Ornament on its border and neck is a zigzag, or herring-bone pattern, irregularly incised. Bottom imperfect. The body of the vessel is full of cracks, from which hang the fibrous roots of plants. Its broken parts are held in position by the soil within, to which the otherwise loose pieces adhere. See engraving.

No. 2.—A small cinerary vessel. Height,  $3\frac{1}{2}$  inches; diameter,  $3\frac{1}{2}$  inches. Bottom gone. The clay is coarse and pebbly. No ornament. Engraved.

No. 3.—One side of an urn. Height of fragment, 13 inches; diameter may have been 10 or  $10\frac{1}{4}$  inches; border, 2 inches wide; groove or neck, 3 inches wide. Ornament on border, a series of twisted thong impressions, consisting of five or six parallel lines arranged vertically and horizontally in alternate compartments. On the neck a zigzag line, the triangular spaces formed by which are filled in with five or more diagonal lines reversed in direction in the alternating spaces. This urn was more carefully protected than some of the others by a larger stone placed above, and a better arrangement of walling around it. Although slightly differing in outline, it reminds us of the so-called "Urn of Bronwen", as figured in the *Arch. Camb.* vol. for 1868, p. 236. Engraved.

<sup>1</sup> There is yet another spot at Bodowyr which claims consideration. It is a rocky ascent, partly coated over by furze and pasture, on the field in front of the farmhouse. Over this hill a highway led some thirty years ago. It is oval in form; and if ever protected by a bank or wall, the work must have corresponded in outline with the ground-plan given by Mr. Rowlands. The position is defensible; but at present it shews no traces of having been fortified.



CINERARY URNS FOUND AT CAE MICKNEY, ANGLESEY.





No. 4.—Part of an urn. Height,  $9\frac{1}{4}$  inches; diameter of mouth, about  $8\frac{1}{2}$  inches. A herring-bone ornament is incised below the lip, diversified by two encircling lines of punctured holes, below which follow two projecting ribs or seams, the space between which is occupied by another band of herring-bone pattern. The ribs are punctured on each side. A broken awl of bronze was found within the urn, measuring, in its imperfect state,  $2\frac{1}{2}$  inches. Inside the lip there is a chevrony ornament one inch wide. Engraved.

No. 5 is imperfect and undecorated. Height, 7 inches; diameter of mouth,  $5\frac{1}{2}$  inches. Bottom gone.

No. 6.—Part of a side. Height of fragment, 6 inches; supposed diameter of orifice, 6 inches. A groove-like depression below the lip,  $2\frac{3}{4}$  inches wide, which bears twisted thong markings very rudely impressed, and arranged herring-bone fashion. The same ornament within the lip.

No. 7.—Height,  $6\frac{1}{4}$  inches; diameter of mouth,  $5\frac{1}{4}$  inches; overhanging border,  $1\frac{3}{4}$  inches wide, with a twisted thong decoration, arranged lozenge-wise in double lines between two bordering horizontal lines.

No. 8.—Part of a side. Height of fragment,  $7\frac{1}{4}$  inches; border, 2 inches wide, ornamented with eight encircling and parallel lines, impressed with twisted thong. Beneath the border it bears eleven similar lines closely arranged.

No. 9.—A fragment  $4\frac{1}{2}$  inches high. Diameter may have been  $4\frac{1}{2}$  inches. Ornament on border, a few oblique lines of cord pattern roughly impressed.

No. 10.—Part of an urn. Height of remaining portion,  $9\frac{1}{2}$  inches; diameter within its orifice, 9 inches. On its border, 3 inches wide, are herring-bone ornaments incised. The same decoration is continued on the neck below the border, which neck is a narrowish depression, bordered on each side by a punctured ridge or seam. I use the term seam, because I think it probable that these encircling ridges or projections were the junctures or sutures of two parts of the vessel,

which had been separately wrought, and that, besides ornament, the object of the punctures on each side of the seam may have been to unite more firmly the two edges of clay and prevent their separation. When it happened that the overhanging border of one of these urns fell off, the edges of the upper and lower parts plainly showed that they had been separately manipulated, and that during the process of firing, their union had not been complete. No ornament within the lip.

No. 11.—A small cinerary urn, without ornament and rudely made,  $3\frac{1}{4}$  inches high. Diameter about  $3\frac{3}{4}$  inches. A part of one side is wanting.

No. 12.—May have been 5 inches high, with an overhanging border  $1\frac{3}{4}$  inches wide. Its diameter,  $4\frac{1}{2}$  inches. The outer surface of its walls has mouldered away, and exposed to view the coarse and pebbly nature of its paste.

No. 13.—A fragment 9 inches high and 8 inches across. Dark coloured. Ornament very rude and indistinct, consisting of vertical and horizontal lines impressed with twisted thong. It would appear from the dimensions of the preceding that the smaller urns have been the most fortunate in resisting decay. The whole of them, however, are in a state so friable that I have little hope of their preservation.

Members who have recently joined our Association may not be aware that in the volume of the *Arch. Camb.* for the year 1868 there is a valuable article on the ancient interments and sepulchral urns found in Anglesey and North Wales, from notices by the Hon. William Owen Stanley, with additional observations by the late Mr. Albert Way, F.S.A. To this interesting paper I would refer those who may be inquisitive on the subject of Cambrian urns.

HUGH PRICHARD.

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## SITES OF ANCIENT TRADITIONAL CHURCHES.

THERE are very many places in Wales where tradition says churches or chapels formerly stood. The sites of these traditional churches are often to be met with on the uplands, in the unenclosed and uninhabited parts of Wales. Drawing a conclusion from the names of places, which are always most tenacious of life, there can be little doubt that the traditions respecting the existence of churches, now no more, had their foundation in fact; and possibly it will be found, upon forming a complete list of these old churches, that Wales, in olden times, was well supplied, in proportion to the population, with places set apart for worship. Oratories, or chapels, seem to have been erected in spots where at present there are no people, and perhaps it was intended that the scattered population would meet in some central place for worship; and hence these out-of-the-way sites of traditional chapels.

Perhaps the remains now mentioned do not belong to the same period, nor to the same religious system. The more simple structures, oblong or circular in form, most likely, are very ancient; whilst the rectangular buildings, with portions still left standing, are comparatively modern. The first-mentioned may possibly belong to the ancient Welsh church, engrafted, it may be, upon a previous belief, whilst the latter were connected with some abbey in the neighbourhood.

These two classes of religious edifices are well worth separate and particular notice, and it would be an acquisition to our knowledge of former times if a complete list and careful description of all such buildings were made.

A few of the more ancient buildings of the kind now mentioned have already been described in the

pages of the *Arch. Camb.* We are indebted to the Rev. E. L. Barnwell for a most interesting account of one of these remains (4th Series, vol. v, p. 234), viz., of that called locally *Eglwys y Gwyddel*, which is situated in the parish of Towyn, Merionethshire. An accurate representation of this church accompanies Mr. Barnwell's paper. From this illustration it will be seen (I use Mr. Barnwell's words) that the *Eglwys* "is a picturesque little stone circle", and that "it is situated on a small plateau of rock...and lies under a wall of rock on one side; and on the other, above a similar but less lofty wall below it. The diameter of the circle is 26 feet, and the highest of the upright stones, 3 feet 7 inches. They are six in number, and were placed at regular intervals of a yard apart."

The form, position, and name of this structure, all point to its great antiquity. The form is circular, and it consists of upright stones, a form that is found connected with pre-historic times: it appears to be in an uninhabited mountain district, but which in former days might have been the home of those ancient people that lived in circular huts on the hill-sides or mountain-tops of Wales. The name, too, is very peculiar and suggestive—"Eglwys Y Gwyddel". The learned writer has translated the word "Gwyddel", but possibly it had better be left untranslated, as it may be found hereafter that the word has very little, if anything, to do with "Irishman" or "Irishmen". The place, though, can safely be called "The Church of the Gwyddel". Here, then, we have a circle converted into a church, or it may be an original circular church, unroofed even. There is nothing singular in this form; it was the form of man's abodes in those far-off times, and their place of worship would naturally be erected in like shape with their huts, just as in modern times ordinary buildings and churches are in shape somewhat like each other.

In this church we have possibly one of the most ancient religious edifices in Wales. Everything con-

nected with it points to its great antiquity. In some respects it might have resembled ancient churches in other parts. The Treen churches in the Isle of Man seem to have approached the circle in form, being elongated with rounded corners. They were a kind of connecting-link between the circular and rectangular church. And, like these ancient churches in Wales, the Treen churches were very diminutive. For a very interesting account of the Treen churches, see *Arch. Camb.*, 3rd Series, vol. xii, p. 271.

But to proceed with the Welsh churches. There are on the Llanllechid mountain, in a spot that abounds with ancient remains, such as circular huts, *carneddau*, and those peculiar graves known as *cistfaens*, the foundation stones of what is called an old church. It appears to have been coeval with the remains now mentioned, but instead of being circular it is rectangular.

This building was first pointed out to me by Mr. Elias Williams, now deceased, an intelligent farmer, who held a farm, *Bronydd*, that abutted upon the mountain, and attached to this farm was a large sheep-walk. Mr. Williams had spent all his life in the parish, and his mind was well stored with the lore of bygone times. He knew every nook of the mountains that extended for miles behind his house. The ancient remains that are scattered along them had gained his attention, and of some of the old buildings he had tales to tell. He lived at a time that commenced before newspapers reached farmhouses, and his folklore was consequently valuable and trustworthy. Mr. Williams called the remains now mentioned, "*Yr hen Eglwys*", the old Church, or, in full, "*Yr Hen Eglwys Llanyrchyn*"—the old Church of Llanyrchyn.

The following is a description thereof. In stands on the unenclosed land in the parish of Llanllechid. Any one wishing to find it, cannot fail doing so if he follows the path from *Cae-llwyn-grydd* to *Aber* village, over

the mountain. Starting from the first-named village, he, for a while, skirts the foot of the hill, and then, about half a mile from the village, he comes to a singular natural cutting called Bwlch-Llanyrchyn, or *Ffos Rhufeiniad* (the Romans' fosse); he then ascends a small ridge, and within about a quarter of a mile from the *ffos*, he crosses a mountain brook, and, just after crossing the brook, a few yards from its bank, and a few yards from the foot-path, walking up the stream, he comes to the foundation stones of a small rectangular building. This is the old church. The walls are about two feet thick. The building measures from three to four paces broad, by from six to seven paces long. It lies nearly east and west. The door-way, or entrance, was on the north side. A quantity of stones, overgrown with grass, lie at the east end internally. From the building an extensive view of mountain and sea is obtained. Pathways, too, are traceable in its neighbourhood. One of these ascended the hill and went by the Aber waterfall to Aber mountain. It was called *Llwybr Yr Offeiriad*—the priest's pathway. Mr. Elias Williams informed me that the same priest officiated in the old Church of Llanyrchyn and in a church on Aber hill. The church on Aber Hill, he said, was still there, but in ruins, and that it stood on the ridge called *Braich y Bedd*—the Ridge of the Grave. Upon visiting this ridge, I found it covered with ancient circular buildings; but as I could not get an old inhabitant of Aber to accompany me in my search, I failed to identify the site of the old church. Both churches are, without a doubt, most ancient; and it is strange that the services in them should have been conducted by itinerant clergy. But this appears to have been the case in the Treen churches in the Isle of Man.

E. OWEN.

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## DRILLED STONE IN SHREWSBURY MUSEUM.

IN the Shrewsbury Museum there is a remarkable drilled stone found at Acton Scott. It is termed a "Stone Celt", and bears the number 27 in the Catalogue of the Shrewsbury Collection. The implement cannot be a celt, for if the word celt is merely the English form of the Latin *celtis* or *celtes*, as given by Dr. John Evans, all true celts should be chisel-like, or at least adze-like, in form. Our illustration is a reproduction of a very careful drawing, kindly made for the Cambrian Archæological Association, by Mr. William Phillips, F.L.S., of Shrewsbury; we are also indebted to Mr. Phillips for several useful notes embodied in the following brief description.

The size of the stone is shown in the illustration; the weight is six ounces; the material, although having the appearance of very fine indurated sandstone, is really a piece of water-worn micaceous slate; it is sufficiently soft to be easily scratched with a knife. The edge, shown on the right of illustration, is rounded, and shows no mark of abrasion from use either as a hammer or hoe, neither is there any chipping or striation to be seen on any part of the tool. The stone is a natural pebble or block, ground to shape, and, as is so often seen in stone implements, the original surface of the pebble is left in the natural depressions not reached in the process of grinding. Similar water-worn pebbles and pieces of stone are frequent in the alluvial soil about Shrewsbury.

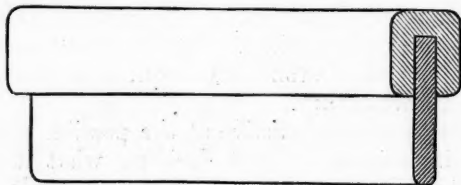
One may sometimes arrive at the possible use of an ancient implement by first deciding what it is not. The Acton Scott tool is certainly not a celt or any adze-like or chisel-like tool. It is too broad for an adze, it is not a drilled hammer, neither is it a hoe. Dr. H. P. Blackmore of Salisbury thought it might



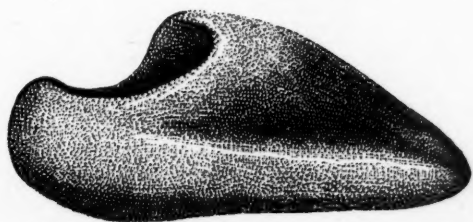
probably be a stone hoe, but the material of the implement is far too soft and the edge much too rounded for anything but the lightest possible soil. It is not an axe. No such tool is figured in Dr. John Evans's *Stone Implements of Great Britain*, and Dr. Evans himself is unable to throw any light on the possible use of the stone. We do not remember seeing any similar stone in any museum, or illustrated in any book.

Our impression is that the stone is either an implement for dressing skins or a pendant. If the former, it must have had a sharper edge at one time than at present, or otherwise it would not have been suitable for removing the surplus flesh from hides. If used for this purpose, the round hole may have been intended for the insertion of the thumb rather than of a handle, to give more purchase in working. It so adapts itself to the hand when the thumb is thrust into the hole, and the rest of the fingers are passed over the depressions at the top, that the idea would occur to any one that it may have been thus used to reduce the substance of skins to a moderate thickness before applying the material with which they were "cured".

Curiously enough we learn from Mr. Phillips that a not dissimilar instrument is still in use at Shrewsbury by curriers for preparing skins. The stones are oblong pieces of slate  $4\frac{3}{4}$  inches long,  $1\frac{3}{4}$  inches wide, and  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch thick, fixed in a piece of wood for a handle as here illustrated, one half actual size. The bottom



edge of the stone is at first square, but soon gets rounded by use, as in the engraving. The Shrewsbury Museum stone, however, may be part of a girdle or pendant.

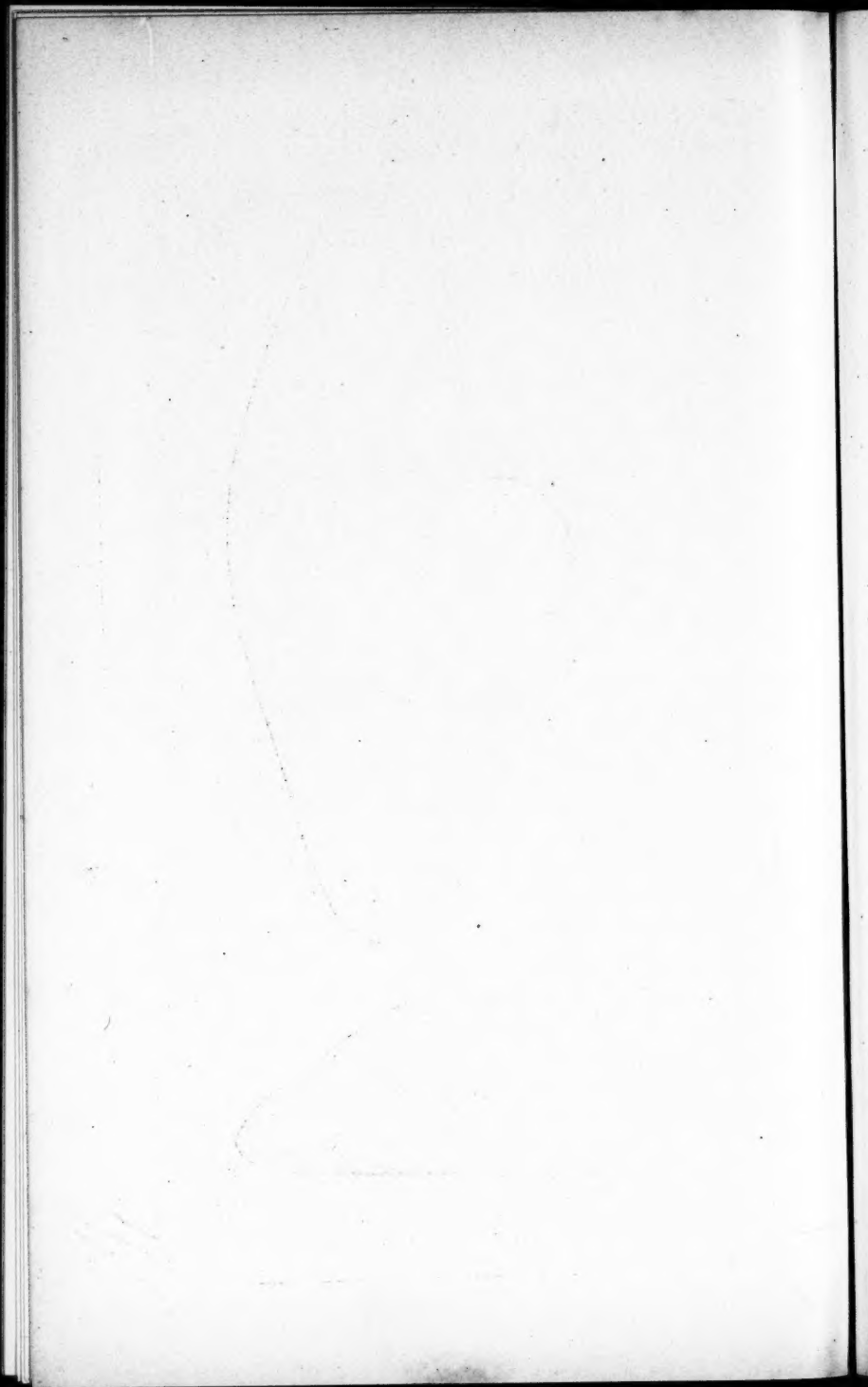


W.P. DEL

W.P.S. 5'

DRILLED STONE, SHREWSBURY MUSEUM.





It is often extremely difficult, if not impossible, to assign uses to prehistoric objects. Quite recently, a wooden object, at first supposed to be a musical instrument, turned out to be a brick-making machine. In another instance an object has been considered a hammer, a musical instrument, and a sun-dial. I may here refer to the curious Stokesay Stone engraved in *Archæologia Cambrensis*, Fourth Series, vol. xii, p. 248. The writer of a description of the Stokesay Stone concludes it to be part of a musical instrument because it has "seven holes" drilled round its periphery, whereas the number of holes is in reality only six, and the author thinks that if the "seven" holes were probed they would probably open into a "groove" described elsewhere as occurring in the central hole. Now this "groove" is only a natural fault in the stone. The Stokesay Castle Stone is a very remarkable one, but incorrectly engraved at the page mentioned above. I am inclined to look upon it as a pendent ornament to a girdle or necklace, especially as the stone is said to be soft and unsuitable for a perforated hammer, which it greatly resembles in form.

Perforated stones are often most difficult to understand; many are natural pebbles drilled from both sides, some are so small that it is impossible to say whether they are stone beads or spindle-whorls; some possible spindle-whorls have the hole so large that they look like small hammers, unsuitable for the weaver's small spindle. There is a large and remarkable drilled quartzite pebble preserved in the schoolroom by Waltham Abbey, Essex. This pebble is 5 inches long,  $4\frac{1}{2}$  inches broad,  $1\frac{1}{4}$  inches thick, and very heavy. The stone was found close by, in the bed of the River Lea. It is a remarkable thing that the smallest part of the hole through the middle of this large stone is very little more than three-eighths of an inch in diameter, and apparently very unsuitable for a handle for such a large stone. The implement was at first much longer, but one end has been worked obliquely off on

both sides and from both faces, giving it an axe-like edge at one end, coming to a very obtuse angle at the apex.

A correspondent of mine, Mr. J. French of Felstead, Essex, has a remarkable and unusually large and massive hammer-stone of quartzite, weighing seven pounds, obscurely egg-shaped, and flattened on both sides, with a few other smaller but natural flattenings, as is common with quartzite pebbles. It is 6 ins. by  $5\frac{1}{4}$  ins., and 4 ins. thick. Near the heel, or thicker end, on both sides, there is an artificially drilled hole. Both the holes are about  $1\frac{1}{2}$  inch deep, and smaller towards the bottom. The striæ made by the coarse sand in drilling are very plain. The holes, if continued, would not meet, for although started opposite each other, there is sufficient divergence to prevent their meeting.

WORTHINGTON G. SMITH.

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### THE MODE OF DISPOSING OF GIPSIES AND VAGRANTS IN THE REIGN OF ELIZABETH.

A DOCUMENT, one of a mass of deeds formerly belonging to the family of Seys of Boverton Place, in the county of Glamorgan, and now in my possession, appears to be sufficiently curious to claim a place in your Journal. The document relates to proceedings by the justices of Yorkshire, though found in this county. It may be presumed that it was in due course delivered to the then Attorney General for Glamorgan, Roger Seys of Boverton, by the person entrusted to carry out the warrant of the justices of Yorkshire, and to conduct the persons named therein to their respective last places of abode; and it may be also fairly assumed that he finished his work by settling the last remnant of his ragged rout in this county.

The document states the proceedings taken at the Quarter Sessions held at York on the 8th of May 1596,

under the provisions of the statutes against Egyptians or Bohemians (as gipsies were then called), viz., the statutes of Henry VIII, Philip and Mary, and Elizabeth, whereby Bohemians and all persons of their company, whether foreigners or English born (except children under thirteen years of age), were made liable to be treated as guilty of felony, which then carried the penalty of death and forfeiture of goods. The company consisted of 196 persons, of whom 106 were tried at the Yorkshire Sessions, and condemned to death; and some of them (presumably grown up foreigners) were executed, and the remainder, as well as the children under thirteen, who had not been tried, were dealt with as stated in the document which follows, viz. :

"To all Christian people to whom these our lres (letters) testimoniall shall come, We, S'r Will'm Mallorye, Knight, one of the Queenes Ma'ty Counsalls established in the North Marches; John Dawney and William Bellasis, Knights; Philip Constable and John Holdham, Esquires, 5 of the Queens Majesties justices of peace in the said countie of Yorke, to all mayors, sheriffs, bailiffs, constables, headboroughs, and tithingmen, and all other her Ma'ty (Majesty's) officers, ministers, and loyal subjects whatsoever, grætinge in our Lord God Everlastinge. Forasmuch as a great number of idle persons, the Queens natural born subjects, and some of them descended of good parentage, as we be credibly informed by some of their friends that heartily wish the amendment of their lives, the whole number of which company being one hundred, fourscore, and sixteen persons of men, women, and children, having wandered in diverse parts of this realme in this county of Yorke, some of them feigning themselves to have knowledge in palmistry, physiognomy, and other abused sciences, using certain disguised apparell and forged speeche, contrary to divers statutes and lawes of this realme, and especially the statute made in the vth year of the Queenes Ma'ty (Majesty's) most gracious reaigne that now is, whom the Lord longe preserve over us.

"We therefore, the s'd Justices, willing to keep this lewde company to conform them accordinge to lawe in that case provided, did therefore cause the whole number of them to be apprehended and committed to her Highness gaols in the said countie of Yorke; whereof so many of them of full age, one hundred and six persons, were arraigned the Tuesdaie being the viii day of May last past, at a quarter Sessions holden at Yorke

aforesaid, at which Sessions the of those offenders were by lawful inquest, though not *per medietatem lingue*, condemned. Whereupon judgement being given that the said offenders should receive pains of death, according to the provisions of the said Statute; whereupon issued execution, and nine of the most valiant persons having least charge of children, and found by the said inquest to be strangers, aliens born in foreign parts beyond the seas, and none of the Queene Majesty natural born subjects, suffered accordingly. The terror whereof so much appalled the residue of the condemned persons and their children which stood to behold the miserable end of their parents, did then cry out so piteously as had been seldom seen or heard, to the great sorrow and grief of all the beholders; lamentably beseeching reprieves for their parents, then ready to suffer death, alledging that they being sixty infants and young children, which could not help themselves, should perish through the loss of their parents; wherefore being moved with compassion upon so doleful cry of such infants, we, the foresaid justices, reprieved the residue of their condemned parents, and sent them back to the gaols from whence they came, where they continued till the vii of July last past, during which time the Right Honorable Lords, Henry Lord Darsye and Raphe Lord Yevars, pitying the said miserable persons, had obtained her Graces free pardon for the said offenders, which was published the said vii day of July, together with her Highness Warrant in the nature of a commission procured by the said Lords, directed to us the aforesaid justices, that we should give order and direction to the said offenders to reform their lives, and to be placed where they were born, and last dwelled by the space of three years; then to demean themselves in some honest faculty, according to the limitation of one Statute made in the 26th year of our late Sovereign Lord of famous memory, King Henry the VIII, now revived by the late Parliament holden anno xxxv Elizabeth Regine.

"Now know ye, We, therefore, the said Sir W. Mallory, Sir John Dawney, Sir William Bellasys, Knights; Philip Constable and John Holdham, Esquires; in accomplishment of her Majestys said warrant and commission to us directed to, have authorised and appointed one William Portyngton, the bearer hereof, to lead and conduct all the rest of his company, being nine score and seven persons, every one to the place where they were born, or last dwelled by the space of three years, there to get their living by some honest and lawful means, allowing to the said William Portyngton viii months next ensuing the date of these our letters testimonial, for the placing of them in form aforesaid; and if it fortune any of his company to escape from



the said William Portyngton, or shall refuse to be placed by him on forme aforesaid, that then every one so offending to be apprehended and deemed as felons, and thereupon to receive judgement. And at the expiration of these our said letters testimonial, the said William Portington to return to us the said justices, or some of us, a true calendar of all the names and surnames of every of his company so by him placed, together with these our letters testimonial; and so then he to receive of us the said pardon, which we have thought good to detain until we shall see the accomplishment of this our direction.

"Moreover, these are to require, and nevertheless in the Queens Majestys name to charge and command every of her Highness officers and subjects, by the authority of her Graces said warrant and commission to us directed, that you and every of you, upon sight hereof, doe permit and suffer the said William Portyngton and his whole company quietly to pass and travel throughout any shire, city, town, village, hamlet, and place whatsoever, franchised or not franchised, among themselves honestly, without any vexation, let, stay, or impediment, to be done to them, or any of them, in body or goods, helping them likewise to lodging and harbouring in due time convenient, with victuals competent for their money, they not tarrying in one place above the space of one day and two nights at the most, unless sickness, death, or such like urgent cause, enforce the contrary.

"In witness whereof we the said justices above named, to these our letters testimonial have put our hands and seals the viii day of July in the xxxviii year of the reign of our most gracious Sovereign Lady Elizabeth, by the grace of God Queen of England, France, and Ireland, defender of the faith.

"W. Malory, J. Dawney, W. Bellassys,  
Phillipp Constable, John Holden."

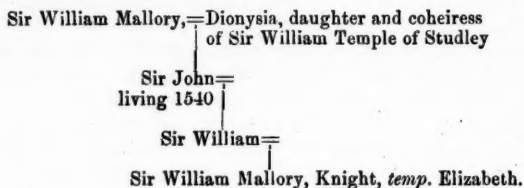
The seals, which were attached by parchment labels to the deed, are all gone, the wax having broken away. Each name is written on its label in the order in which the names are placed. On the back of the deed the following endorsement appears :

"Lancaster ff.

"Seen and allowed to passe through this countie,  
according to intention of their Lycence, this  
24 day of Jullii.

"Rychard Molyneux.  
"Rich. Houghton."

Sir William Mallory was of Studly. In 1569 he was made a Deputy Lieutenant for Yorkshire. In 1598 he was High Steward of Ripon. Whitaker (Craven, p. 458) gives the following pedigree :



Sir John Daune is the direct ancestor of the present Viscount Downe. The family is of Norman origin, and their ancestor, Sir Paris D'Aune, is said to have come in with the Conqueror.

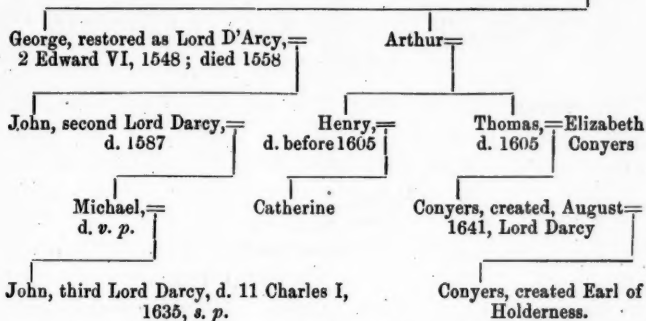
Sir William Bellasis or Belasyse, also of Norman origin, was descended from a family of great distinction in the north of England. Sir Wm. was Sheriff of Yorkshire in 1574. His eldest son, Sir Henry Belasyse, of Newborough, was created a baronet by James I on 29 June 1611; and his grandson, Sir Thomas, was created, in 1627, Baron Fauconberg, and in 1643 Viscount Fauconberg. The whole of the family honours became extinct in 1815; on the death of Charles Belasyse, Viscount Fauconberg.

Philip Constable, of Everingham, was son of Marmaduke Constable, who died 1st Feb. 1574. Philip's will is dated 14 Oct. 1619. His grandson, Sir Philip, was made a baronet in 1642. He is ancestor of Constable Maxwell, Lord Herries.

John Holdham not identified.

Henry Lord Darcy. There was a Sir Henry Darcy, eldest son of Sir Arthur Darcy; but the Lord Darcy at the time of the deed was called John. It is odd that the scribe should have made such a mistake. The pedigree of the Darcies, Lords Darcy and Earls of Holderness, is as follows :

Sir Thomas D'Arcy, summoned to Parliament from 1509-29;  
attainted for "Pilgrimage of Grace"; beheaded June 20, 1538



From this it is apparent that the Lord Darcy at the time of the deed was John, third Lord Darcy, of Aston. The only other Lord Darcy then existing was Thomas Lord Darcy of Chiche in Essex.

Ralph Lord Yevars, or Eure, or Evre, was the third baron of that family, and was in 1605 constituted the King's Lieutenant in the Principality of Wales. Burke says that Hugh, a younger son of the Chevenings, Barons of Warkworth in Northumberland, acquired in the reign of Henry III the lordship of Eure in Bucks., whence their name. His son John was settled in the county of York, *temp.* Edward I; and his descendant, Sir William, was in 1544 created Baron Eure of Wilton, county Durham. Ralph Lord Eure, the third Baron, was his grandson.

Richard Molyneux was eldest son of William, and grandson of Sir Richard Molyneux, Knight, by Eleanor, daughter of Alexander Radcliffe, created a baronet in 1611. He was ancestor of the present Earl of Sefton.

Sir Richard Houghton or Hoghton, of Hoghton Tower, Lancashire, created a baronet in 1611, ancestor of the present Sir Henry Bold D. Hoghton of Hoghton Tower.

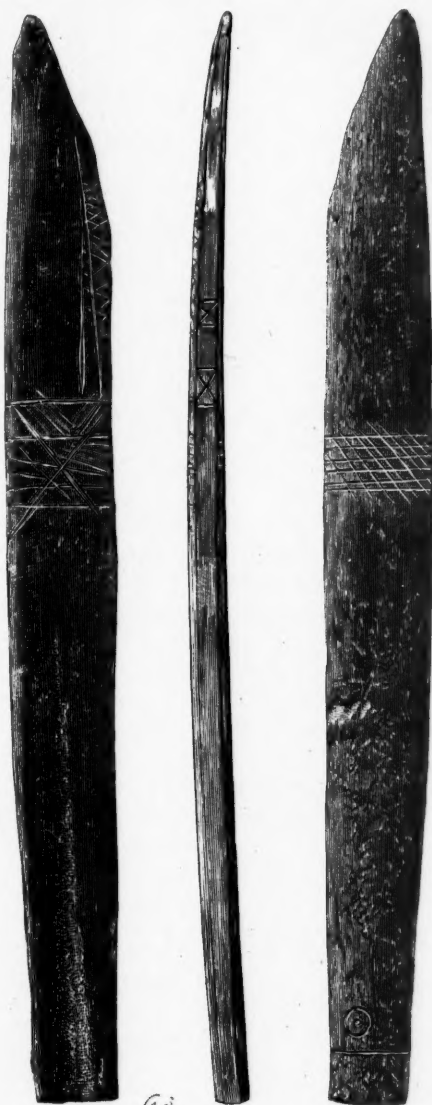
R. O. JONES,

Fonmon Castle.

### BONE KNIFE FOUND NEAR KEMPSTON, BEDFORD.

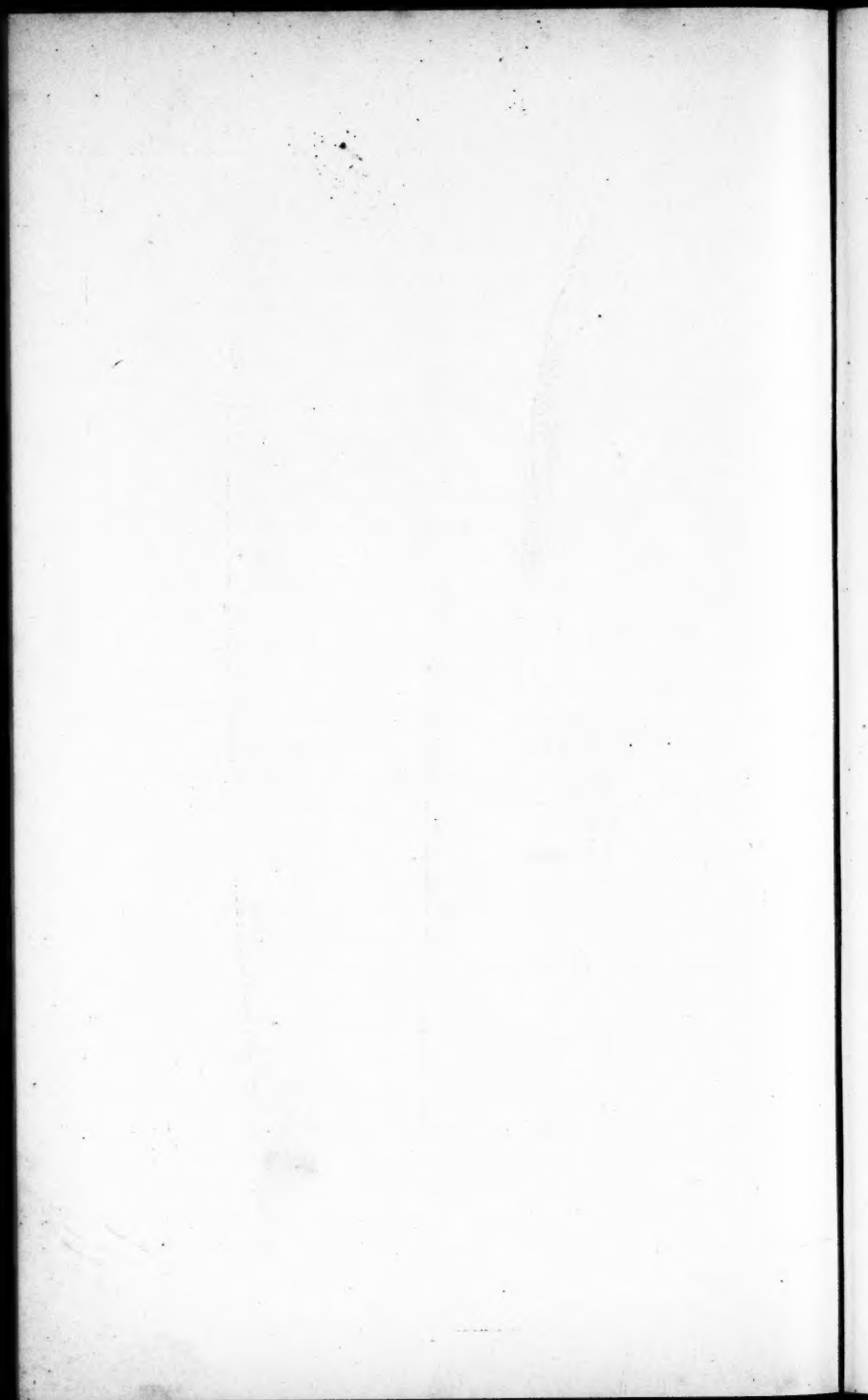
THE object here illustrated is worthy of attention at the present time, as it probably belongs to the same class as the Towyn slate, illustrated at page 112 of the present volume. It apparently belongs to the time when iron was used as a cutting material; and this knife, though made from a piece of splintered bone, is clearly an imitation of a metal blade inserted into a wooden, bone, or other handle. Towards the middle of both sides a series of rude, ornamental lines are engraved, and these lines indicate the junction of the iron or bronze with the haft. The left hand figure shows a few zigzag and long lines at the back edge of the blade. At the bottom of the right hand figure is a line and circle with a central dot, and the circle seems to indicate the point where a hole might be drilled for the insertion of a cord for suspension. The back of the knife is shown in the middle figure, and the part belonging to the blade is ornamented with crossed lines. The whole appearance of the object immediately suggests that it is an imitation of a metal knife in bone. The bone itself, though slightly lustrous, has lost its gelatine, and it adheres to the tongue in the less lustrous places.

This antiquity was found in a gravel pit at Kempston, into which position it had doubtlessly fallen from the ground above. At the same time with this knife, a bone spindle belonging to a spindle whorl was found, a Neolithic flint scraper, several fragments of British and Saxon pottery, two ancient beads, and a disc of stone one inch and three-quarters in diameter, hammered away on one face, drilled with a very small central depression on the other, with the periphery smooth, and to which no use can be assigned: it does not appear to be a spindle whorl in an unfinished condition.



GW 10

BONE KNIFE FOUND AT KEMPSTON, NEAR BEDFORD.



In vol. xiv, 3rd Series, p. 296, of the *Archæologia Cambrensis*, is engraved an iron piercer, with bone handle, found in a subterranean chamber at La Tour-elle, Quimper, Brittany, and to this illustration and its accompanying description we refer our readers. The bone handle of the piercer is cylindrical and somewhat smaller than the handle of the Kempston example; it has a small incised circle, with a central dot towards the base exactly like the Kempston bone. Such little circles with central dots seem very frequent on pre-historic bone tools. The Quimper borer also has a series of horizontal and oblique lines at the point of junction of the iron and bone, very much in the style of the Bedford knife.

The gravel-pits in the neighbourhood of Bedford have long been known to be rich in the bones, teeth, and tusks of extinct mammalia; the same pits also produce paleolithic flint implements and flakes. The surface humus in many places contains neolithic relics often in close company with Roman, Saxon, mediæval, and other antiquities. When excavations are made, the objects belonging to the upper soil constantly drop into the bottom of the pits, and may be mistaken by careless or ill-informed persons for objects belonging to the gravel. Mistakes of this nature are constantly made. The bones and flints belonging to the Bedford gravel are in a totally different condition from the bones and flints in the humus above. Sometimes excavations were made into the gravel for graves in Saxon times, and in these places palæolithic relics were disturbed. When a relic is found in the bottom of a gravel-pit, this fact is no more proof of its antiquity than the antiquity of a tobacco-pipe or a beer-bottle is proved by being found in the same position. Sometimes the surface of the ground has been denuded by centuries of rain, and the gravel exposed. In such positions ancient and modern objects are mingled together.

WORTHINGTON G. SMITH.



### Miscellanea.

*Commission from King Charles I to Colonel Thomas Davies of Gwysaney, Flintshire, to raise a Regiment of five hundred Men in Support of the Royal Cause.*

"Charles R.

"CHARLES, by the grace of God, King of Great Britaine, France, and Ireland, Defender of the Faith, &c. To our trusty and wel-beloved Thomas Davies,<sup>1</sup> Esq., Greeting. Know yee and all men els whoms'r it may concerne That wee, reposing great trust and confidence in your ability, diligence, and fidelity in martiall affayres, doe by theis p'sents constitute and appoint you Colonell of one Regiment of ffive hundred floote and Dragooners. And wee doe hereby give you full power and authority for Us, and in our name to raise, imprest, and retayn the said Regiment, consisting of ffive hundred men, Voluntiers or otherwise raised or to be raised by sound of Drum or any other way in any of our Dominions, for the defence of our Royall Person, the Two Houses of Parliament, the Protestant Religion, the Lawes of the Land, the Liberty and propriety of the subject, the Privileges of Parliament, and the defence of our Counties of Denbigh and Flint. And them so raised to bring together and imploy in our service for the defence of these our said Counties. And further, in the absence of ourself or our Lieutenant Generall or Generall of our Horse, Wee doe hereby give you full power and authority to dispose them into Companyes, and to nominate constitute and appoint Captaines and other fitting officers over them, whome Wee require you to obey and observe as their Colonell. And you likewise to obey observe and follow such orders and directions as you shall from time to time receive from Ourself, our Lieutenant Generall, Generall of our Horse, or other your Superior Officer, according to the discipline of warre.

"Given under our Sign Manuall at our Court at Oxford this nineteenth of July 1643. In the nineteenth year of our Raigne."

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*Hawarden Castle.—Order given for its Sustentation by Prince Rupert.*

"Theis are to will and require you, upon sight hereof, out of the moneys by you receaued or to be receaued as part of the loane money vpon Privy Seales and Subscriptions in the Counties

<sup>1</sup> Thomas Davies, second son of Robt. Davies, Esq., of Gwysaney, co. Flint. See note, *Arch. Camb.*, 1881, p. 204.

of Denbigh and flynt, to pay to the Hands of Colonell John Marrowe, for the use of S'r William Neale, and towards the victualling and furnishing with Armes and Amunition the Castle of Hawarden in the County of flynt, the sume of one hundred pounds; which hundred pound and what other moneys of the Kinges Ma'tie, or of the said S'r William Neale, disbursed by him for the service of that Garrison, is to bee accounted for before S'r William Bellenden, Comissary Generall, or such Auditor or Auditors as he shall appoint. ffor the payment of which one hundred pounds this shall bee yo'r warrant.

Dated the nyntth of June 1644.

"To the High Sherriffs of the respective Countyes of Denbigh and flynt, and either of them. Charles Walley, Alderman of Chester; Humphrey Lloyd of Bersham in the county of Denbigh, Gent.; and every of them, and all others whom these may concerne.

"Rupert.

"12 Junij, 1644.

"Rec'd by me, Colonell John Marrowe, from Robert Davies, Esq., High Sheriff of the County of flynt, the sume of fifty pounds, in pursuance of this warrant. I say rec'd the sume of 50*l*.

"John Marow."

### Correspondence.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE *ARCHÆOLOGIA CAMBRENSIS*.

#### WELSH POOL

SIR,—An interesting account of the Hall and Market Place of Welsh Pool, written by Mr. David Pryce Owen when he was Mayor, appeared in *Bye-Gones*, September 17th, 1873. Two days earlier foundation-stones of what was called "a new Town Hall, Assize Court, and Market Hall", were laid by the Mayor and the Earl of Powis; and from the record of the past prepared on that occasion I glean the following. In 1761 the Market Hall, which stood on the south-eastern side of Upper Church Street, at the corner of Broad Street, was in so bad a state that it was ordered to be pulled down, and the market removed to the lower end of the Guild Hall. The Guildhall, which occupied its present site, was used for holding the Great Sessions, flannel, grain, and other markets. In 1790 and 1791, at a common hall, the local authorities condemned the building as ruinous; and in 1795 it was agreed that it should be taken down and rebuilt. This was done, the architects and builders being Messrs. Hazeldine and Simpson of Shrewsbury. The

work was not completed until 1804. There is much more that is highly interesting in the account; but it does not form a reply to your query. Moreover, it will doubtless appear in the interesting papers on Welshpool, by the Editor, in *Montgomeryshire Collections*. I may just remark that the catastrophe of 1758, referred to by "A MEMBER", was not the only one of the sort that occurred in the old Hall. In 1795, in the course of a trial for burglary, the floor gave way, and there was much alarm. The place was cleared without accident, and the Court adjourned to the parish church. This probably was the reason why the authorities acted on the warning they had received four years earlier, when the building was condemned.

A. R.

Croeswylan, Oswestry.

#### WATT'S DYKE.

SIR,—It seems very evident that a warden of the Welsh dykes (if such an officer existed) would have no reason now-a-days to complain of want of occupation. Those portions of Watt's Dyke in the neighbourhood of Wrexham, that have remained to our own days, are becoming year by year smaller and smaller in extent; and this not through the operation of the slowly wearing and levelling influences of nature, but through that of the destroying hand of men. Those who live along the course of the Dyke ought themselves to ward and keep it. Some of these, however, would, I fear, gladly cart every bit of it away if they could only earn a dishonest penny thereby. Others allow it to be destroyed because they do not know what it is. Although it forms the western boundary of the borough, there are many that have lived in Wrexham all their lives who do not know there is any such Dyke near the town. Well, in a few years there will be no such Dyke here. Long strips of it have been levelled, in quite recent years, along Crispin Lane and between the Bersham and Ruabon Roads. I myself saw in the summer of 1881 another bit of it being destroyed; and we may be sure the new Railway Company, if they are not looked after, will sooner or later sweep away a great part of what is left. The course of the projected railroad (between the present railway bridge and the Workhouse) will run either along the actual site of the Dyke, or along a line parallel to and abutting upon it. In either case the Dyke is in peril. Though it be allowed for the present to remain, it will almost certainly, one of these days, be discovered to be in the way; then, unless its proper wardens here (the Town Council as representing the inhabitants of Wrexham) take measures for its safety, it will be cleared away, and the earth of it used to fill a hole. Railway companies, if they have a conscience (a property which most people deny to them), are at any rate entirely destitute of sentiment, and care not what they destroy so long as they can declare a good dividend. Nor ought they to be very much blamed for this. It is not *their* function to guard our antiquities; and if

the natural wardens of these antiquities do not object to their destruction, why should the railway companies stay their levelling hand?

Permit me, in conclusion, to suggest that when "The Hand Inn" is pulled down, its curiously carved beams and sills be acquired for the public, and placed in the Free Library. On one of the sills of this old inn is cut a very curious representation or rather emblem of the Trinity. A similar representation of the Trinity, under the form of three rabbits curiously united by their ears, occurs, I believe, in one of the windows of the church of the Holy Trinity, Long Melford, Suffolk.

Wrexham.

Yours, etc.,

A. B.

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Y WERTHYR.

SIR,—Wishing to know whether "Y Werthyr", a homestead in the neighbourhood of Amlwch, still shews anything explanatory of the fact of its being called by a name meaning "the fortification", I wrote on the subject to Mr. John Parry, the gentleman living there. As his reply to my letter may serve to induce some antiquarian to examine the ground, I think it expedient to have it printed. It runs thus:

"On the top of a hill, near where the old house of Y Werthyr was situated, there can be seen to-day ruins of old earthwork fortifications. When I first came to reside here I often had twenty cattle grazing in the field, and sometimes they would all go down into the old trench, and were completely lost to view, so I filled it up in a great measure. Years ago Mr. Owen, the late Rector of Llanerchymedd, examined the place, and pronounced it the ruin of an old Welsh fort. There is also, in the adjoining field, a large stone measuring about 10 feet above ground. In the time of the former proprietor of the place there was another stone of the same size, some distance from it, and a huge flat stone extending from one to the other. The old country people stood in great awe of it, and considered it an act of sacrilege when Mr. Williams destroyed the top stone and one of the pillars."

JOHN RHYS.

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Archæological Notes and Queries.

Is it true, as stated lately in *The Globe*, that the cromlech at White House, near Trevine, North Pembrokeshire, has been built into a hedge?

M. N.

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CLOCAENOG CHURCH RESTORATION. DISCOVERY OF FRESCO ON WALL.—This church is undergoing a certain amount of restoration. While clearing the walls of the accumulated coatings of whitewash, the

workmen came upon a couple of fresco paintings, one on each side of the large east window. The Rev. W. Jones, the Rector of the parish, describes the paintings as follows. That on one side of the window was the figure of a man, about 2 yards long, with shaven face, and what appeared to be a breastplate on his breast. There were letters, in character like Hebrew, connected with this figure, but so obliterated as to be unreadable. The other figure was also that of a man, full sized, canonically clothed, and holding a pastoral staff with the head thereof turned inwards. The man's eyes were particularly bright. This figure was bearded. It was about  $1\frac{1}{2}$  foot long; at least that part exposed was this size, but it might have been longer. There were also indistinct letters about this figure. Along the north wall was depicted a coat of arms in which a lion appeared. These paintings, the Rector says, cannot be kept intact.

E. O.

"CHIPS FROM OLD STONES."—This interesting work, which was originally privately printed, may now be had, at a very moderate price, of Mr. Cameron, George Street, Edinburgh, who has only twenty copies at his disposal. The authoress, Miss MacLagan of Ravenscroft, Stirling, is better known from her grand work of *The Hill Forts and Stone Circles of Scotland*, a work unique in its design and execution. *Chips from Old Stones* is mostly devoted to the curious stone works called *Nuraghi*, and peculiar to Sardinia. Some of the most important of the primitive remains are also noticed and figured.

BASINGWERK ABBEY.—On the occasion of a recent visit to this Abbey I found that the round-headed arch of the door leading from what was once the south aisle of the nave into what was once the north walk of the cloister, had been recently either wilfully destroyed or had fallen of itself by natural decay. The moulded voissiors strewed the ground between the door-jambs, and apparently lay as they had fallen. It is to be hoped that what remains of Basingwerk Abbey will not be allowed to go utterly to ruin.

A. N. P.

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### Reviews.

GOSSIPING GUIDE TO WALES. Woodall and Venables,  
Oswestry, 1882.

THE present edition of the *Gossiping Guide to Wales*, or rather to North Wales, is an old friend issued with many additions and improvements. The author, Mr. Askew Roberts, and the publishers are alike to be congratulated upon the work that they have produced. The writer holds a fluent pen, and we have read his book through with great pleasure. Various are the sources from which the author obtains his information. He seems to have read most, if

not all, the books of travel that have issued from English travellers in Wales from past days to the present year. The matter obtained from these sources has been thoroughly digested and recast, and the result is a most readable book. But the *Guide* is not merely a judicious compilation of other men's labours. It has great merits independently of the information obtained from the library. The author is seen in his work. His acute observation and descriptive powers shew themselves in every page. He possesses a vein of quiet humour, and detects a bit of wit on the part of a station-master or publican, and he tells a tale in excellent style. We will give one instance of what we now refer to. Speaking of the Earl of Dudley, who possesses property in the parish of Llandrillo, the *Gossiping Guide* says: "A stock story of the district is that his Lordship was in the habit of taking out with him a publican of Llandrillo as a guide, and that one day the nobleman, fearful that a suspicious looking bit of turf was not trustworthy, said to his retainer, 'Robert, has this bog any bottom to it?' 'Oh, yes, your Lordship,' was the reply; and his Lordship jumped, and was at once up to his waist, and still sinking. 'You rascal!' quoth the noble, 'didn't you say this bog had a bottom?' 'And so it has, my Lord,' returned Robert, 'but you haven't reached it yet.'"

The work abounds with folk-lore and tales, which are always remarkably well told. We refer the reader to the book itself for these.

It is not to be expected in a book of this kind that inaccuracies should be altogether absent therefrom; but this is wonderfully correct in the information given. So much so that we venture to say that the author is a reliable historian. Still we detect a slight misdescription; and we are glad that we have done so, just for the fun of punishing Mr. Askew Roberts' incredulity, shewn in his narration of the story we are about to mention. Of Corwen Mr. Roberts writes: "Visitors to the churchyard are shewn a rude cross cut in the outside of one of the walls of the church; and this, of course, is the true mark of Owain Glyndwr's dagger, we suppose spiritualised. In the churchyard, too, there is a rude column called 'Carreg y Big yn y Fach Rewlyd', and to this appertains a story. We are told that all attempts to build the church in any other place were frustrated by the influence of certain adverse powers, till the founders, warned in a vision, were directed to the spot where this pillar stood." So much from the *Gossiping Guide*. But this is what Canon Thomas, in his *History of the Diocese of St. Asaph*, says, alluding to the cross and stone mentioned in the foregoing quotation: "This stone (the cross) now forms the lintel of the priest's door"; and speaking of Carreg y Big, "This stone is now built into the wall of the north porch." Which is correct? We might say to our pleasant, gossiping guide, "Gently over those stones, sir."

The amount of information contained in the *Guide* is really considerable, and the time expended and journeys taken ere this book could have been finished, must have been great. If it had been

written in the last century, as a literary work, it would have been lauded; and as a repository of curious things, it would have been quoted as an authority. Even in this year of facilities for visiting all parts of Wales, the *Gossiping Guide* is a monument of perseverance; and deservedly does it occupy a foremost place, if not the first, among guide-books to Wales. The chatty tone that pervades the book is just what one likes to see in a guide-book. Heavy reading and a sunny hill-side on a summer's day do not agree. This, however, admirably harmonises with a holiday ramble in Wales. There is, though, a danger attached to this style of writing, and this *Guide* has one sentence at least which we think might have been differently worded. We are sorry to find even one blemish amidst so many beauties; but we do not think the following words are altogether in good taste: "If water from the Jordan is imported to make Christians of little princes, why should not the water from St. Sulien's Well do a like service for little Taffies?" We take exception to this extract, and we doubt not that the good taste of the writer will agree with us, and that he will in the next edition of the *Gossiping Guide* (and we are sure that it will undergo many editions) expunge the words.

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THE ANCIENT CUSTOMS OF THE CITY OF HEREFORD. By RICHARD JOHNSON, late Town Clerk. 2nd edition. Printed by T. Richards, 37, Great Queen Street, London.

THE new edition of this valuable work is now in the hands of the subscribers, who are to be congratulated on the acquisition of it. Nor are the members of a family well known in Hereford to be less congratulated on their production of a volume of such interest to the antiquarian world in general, and more particularly to all who are interested in the city and county of Hereford.

Those members of the Cambrian Archæological Association who were at the Meeting of the Association in 1867, will remember the kind assistance given by Mr. Johnson, the universally respected Town Clerk. He was then engaged on his intended work of the *Customs of the City*, which was published in the following year. For many previous years Mr. Johnson had read at the meetings of the Hereford Philosophical and Antiquarian Society, several papers on this subject, which, at the request of that Society, were subsequently printed in a small pamphlet. Being afterwards able, by extended researches, to add materially to his previously acquired knowledge, and still further assisted by private friends communicating other curious documents, he was induced by the earnest entreaties of his antiquarian friends to undertake the work, the second edition of which is now before us.

It appears that after the work was published, Mr. Johnson discovered among the municipal archives, but did not live to give the public the benefit of his additional researches, documents which would have thrown light on several points. For this reason his widow, assisted by her daughters, has included in the second edition this additional information.

Hereford city was proved to be ancient demesne land in the time of the Conqueror, and continued to belong to the Crown until Richard I sold all his rights and interest to the inhabitants, 9 October 1189; but thirty-five years before that sale, the *Customs Book of Hereford* was made a record for Rhudlan, to the men of which town the grant in fee-farm was made by the same customs the men of Hereford used. Thus the *Customs Book* commences with a petition from the men of Rhudlan, supported by the King's writ, which was granted without payment of fine or fees, whereas the inhabitants of other towns, as Carmarthen, Denbigh, etc., had to pay considerable sums for the same privilege, Carmarthen paying one hundred shillings. At a later date the men of Haverfordwest petitioned for the same privilege, for which a similar amount was paid.

Scolding women were not unknown, and considered such a public nuisance that it was ordered they should stand in some public place with bare feet, and their hair hanging about their ears, for a certain time; then sent to prison, where they remained until they "had made redemption at the will of the bailiff whose tenants they were".

Special regulations were also enacted for repelling the attacks of Welshmen. We read also of the numerous quarrels between the civil and ecclesiastical authorities, for accounts of which we must refer to the work itself. Mussels and oysters were the only fish that people might sell, "other than their own", under a penalty of six shillings and eight-pence; half of which went to the mayor, and half to the chamberlain. Many other curious regulations of the same kind are well worth perusing.

In the latter part of the work are many interesting details of the civil war, in which Hereford vigorously supported the royal cause; but in spite of the bravery of the defence the citizens were overpowered, although not without several struggles, for the city changed hands more than once. This part of the volume will be found by some the most interesting, if not the most important in antiquarian eyes. Taking, however, the work as a whole, we do not remember having read one equal to it in interest.

Illustrations of a view of the city in 1778, and two of the old city gates, long since removed, are added to this second edition; but the more interesting additions are the capital letters that commence some of the chapters, which are accurately copied from the original charters mentioned, of various dates from the tenth to the sixteenth century. These, we are informed, are from the skilful pencil of one of the daughters of the family.

We must once more congratulate the Editor of this edition, to whose energetic spirit in undertaking the work the public is so much indebted.

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